



The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Thursday November 7 1996

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Jaci Stephen on troubles in the Street

Sex and the soap wars

G2 with European weather



Books

Six of the best

They're off — runners and riders in the Guardian Fiction Prize

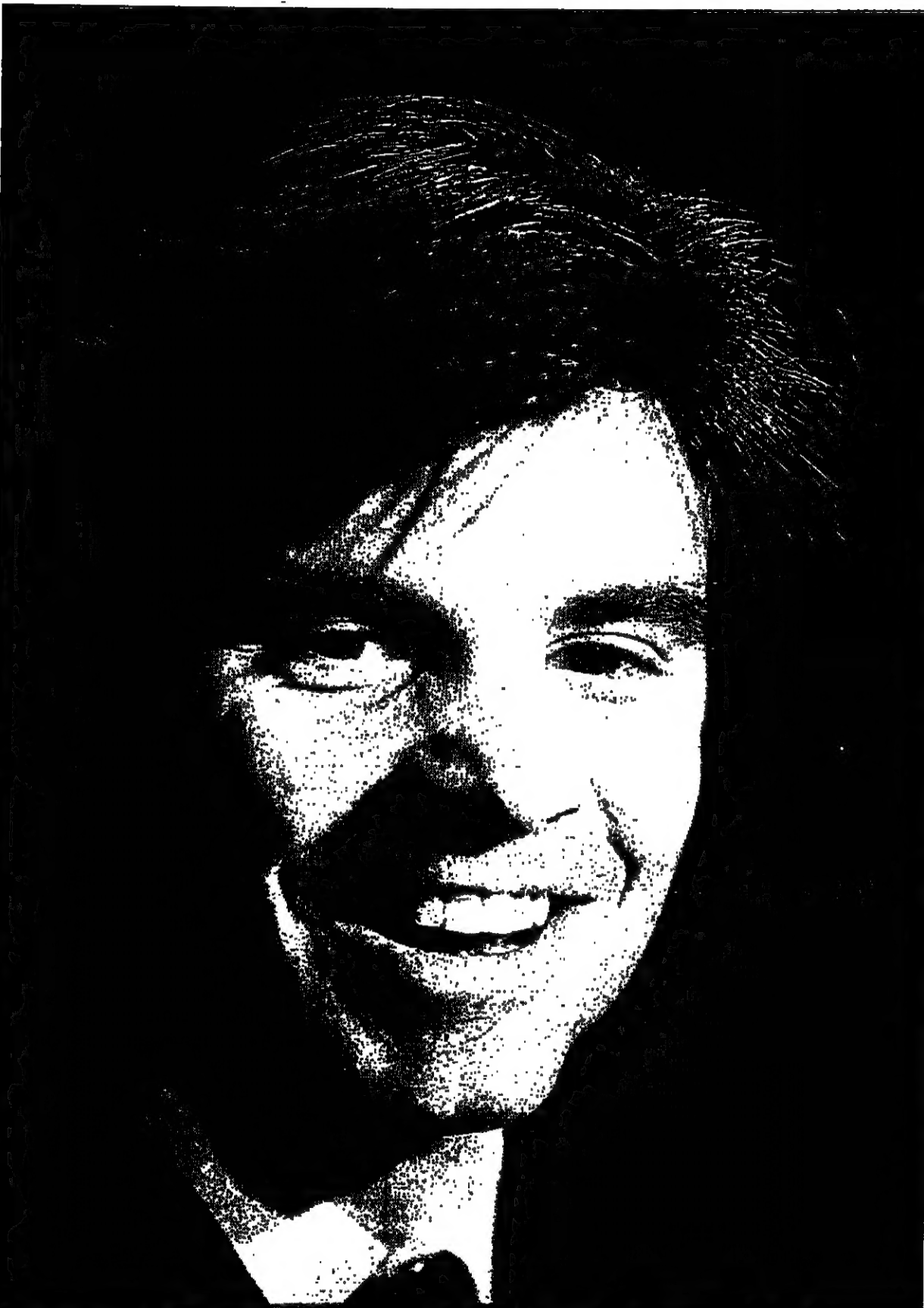
OnLine

How much money can you make on the Internet?

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Stephanopoulos, the Democratic whiz-kid, to take on Conservatives

Clinton star to boost Labour



George Stephanopoulos: ready to do for Tony Blair what he has done for Bill Clinton

Jonathan Freedland in Little Rock

GORGE Stephanopoulos, the whiz-kid White House adviser who helped Bill Clinton win two presidential victories, is set to work for Tony Blair and the Labour Party at the next general election.

In a stunning move that could trigger a rift between the White House and the Conservative government — and a civil war within Labour — Mr Stephanopoulos told the Guardian yesterday he was eager to help Mr Blair. He had communicated his interest to friends in the Labour Party.

The Labour leader paid warm tribute to Mr Stephanopoulos last night. Mr Blair's office said: "We know him and rate him highly. We would welcome any input he could feasibly make."

Mr Stephanopoulos, speaking in Little Rock less than 12 hours after Mr Clinton won a second term with nearly 50 per cent of the popular vote and a landslide in the electoral college, said: "I've told them I'm happy to help if they want me."

The pin-up of Mr Clinton's 1992 campaign and still one of the stars of the administration, Mr Stephanopoulos said no formal arrangement had yet been agreed with Labour, but that he aimed to do for Mr Blair what he has already done for President Clinton.

The 35-year-old adviser — immortalised as the fictional Henry Burton in the best-selling novel *Primary Colors* — said he would not be involved in hands-on campaigning for Labour, but would provide strategic counsel. "To help translate the lessons of Bill Clinton to Britain."

"I know how to work the last 90 days of a campaign," he said when asked to detail the kind of service he would be offering Labour. He understood "the sense of day-to-day tactics, how to respond to the tried-and-true techniques of the right wing."

The unprecedented offer of help from a senior member of the US administration to an overseas opposition party is bound to spark tension between London and Washington.

But sources close to Mr Stephanopoulos said he had little affection for John Major and had never forgiven the Tories for helping Mr Clinton's opponent in 1992, the then President George Bush.

Yesterday's move is also likely to trigger fresh feuding in the Labour Party, with Mr Blair's critics seizing on discussions of a role for Mr Stephanopoulos as evidence of excessive "Clintonisation".

Labour has already enjoyed an unusually close relationship with the Clinton White House, with Mr Stephanopoulos — whose official title is senior adviser to the president — as the highest ranking point of contact.

Last month he played host to Peter Mandelson, Labour MP for Hartlepool, in San Diego, where the two watched the final presidential debate

between Mr Clinton and Republican challenger, Bob Dole.

Mr Mandelson, Mr Blair's election campaign organiser, said: "I realised he was not only a first-rate campaigner, but serious and committed in his politics, someone who could have a lot of sympathy with the economic and social policies Labour stands for."

Mr Stephanopoulos acknowledged Labour had played one crucial role in Mr Clinton's re-election. A memo from Labour consultant Philip Gould — suggesting Mr Clinton emulate the late French president Francois Mitterrand's 1988 election-winning strategy — became a crucial part of White House thinking.

The Gould memo — Mitter-

Tories in best poll showing for 3 years

Martin Kettle

THE WIDELY shared view among MPs that next year's general election could be a closer race than expected receives a powerful boost this morning with the news that the Conservatives have clawed five points off the Labour lead in a single month to narrow the gap between the parties to 13 points, according to the November Guardian/ICM opinion poll.

Labour's lead this month is the second lowest of the Tony Blair era. The Conservatives' 34-point rating is their best in an ICM poll for three years. Labour's rating shows a return to its September, pre-conference season figure, while the Liberal Democrats have dropped to their lowest ICM rating for two years.

The sharp switch in the Tories' favour underlines the party's comeback after a successful party conference and comes amid Tory economic confidence in the run-up to Kenneth Clarke's pre-election Budget later this month.

It comes at a time when other opinion polls since the party conferences have produced contradictory messages, allowing both sides to claim victory in the pre-election exchanges. But the new poll finding confirms that the Conservatives are inching closer to their rivals.

The state of the parties this month, according to ICM's adjusted figures, is Labour 47 per cent (down 2 points since October), Conservatives 34 (up 3), Liberal Democrats 15 (down 1), and others 4 (up 1). The new Labour lead of 13 points over the Conservatives is down five points on October's 18-point gap between the parties.

October's poll was taken immediately after Labour's successful conference and before a Tory conference that turned out better than expected for the Government, so the pollsters point out that last month's lead may have been abnormally high. Nevertheless, the current 13-point lead in the Guardian/ICM series is consistent with a Labour lead of 14 points in an NOP poll in mid-October for the Sunday Times, rather than the 28-point gap recorded by Mori for the Times last week. It also reverses two months in which Labour had pulled further ahead in the Guardian/ICM index after the gap between the parties had narrowed to 13 points in August.

But the Conservatives would be wise not to uncork the champagne yet. Labour's 47 per cent rating equals its average over the last 12 months and is two points up on its July and August ratings. And according to the BBC/ITN seats projection guide, even these figures would still produce a theoretical Labour overall majority of 131 at the general election.

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Voting intention

Adjusted Excluding don't knows

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Lab	45	47	49	47
Con	33	32	31	34
LDem	19	16	16	15
Other	3	5	4	4

Lab lead

Lab lead	12	15	18	13
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Police get greater knife search powers

Howard agrees to consider curbs on marketing of 'Rambo blades'

Alan Travis and Ewen Macaskill

POLICE are to be given wider powers to stop and search for knives or drugs anyone suspected of being a member of a street gang, the Home Office said last night.

The stronger powers were proposed yesterday by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, as an alternative to his immediate support for new Labour and Liberal Democrat-backed laws on the manufacture and marketing of combat knives.

At cross-party talks yesterday, Mr Howard also agreed to consider new laws to control the sale and marketing of combat knives, such as those advertised as "Rambo blades".

The strengthened "sus" law will allow police to stop and search anyone they suspect of being part of a gang "which habitually carry knives, other weapons for unlawful purposes or drugs".

It will mean that police no longer need a reason to believe that a specific individual is carrying a knife before they can search him. Being part of a gang suspected of possessing knives will, in future,

be sufficient. The number of street encounters with the police will far exceed the 30,000 individuals stopped last year and searched on suspicion of carrying offensive weapons.

Mr Howard claimed any attempt to impose a simple ban on the sale of combat knives was likely to have a strictly limited impact on crime, while the new powers would tackle "the real problem of people using and carrying offensive weapons".

Both Labour and Liberal Democrats welcomed the proposed changes to conduct street searches under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. "This is a welcome change to the police codes. It would help deal with the kind of gangland situation that in-

directly, tragically, led to the murder of Philip Lawrence," said the shadow home secretary, Jack Straw. For the Liberal Democrats, Alex Carlile said they would enable the police to deal with "gangs that tool themselves up in a uniform way".

But the opposition parties tried to corner Mr Howard yesterday afternoon by proposing he go further and add his voice to the cross-party support for a private members' bill to ban the marketing of combat knives.

The bill, likely to be introduced by Jimmy Wray, Labour MP for Glasgow Provan, would ban the marketing of all knives except those which had a reasonable purpose, such as kitchen knives. Combat knives would automatically be prohibited. No attempt would be made to define combat knives by their shape.

Mr Wray came top of a ballot of MPs on private members' bills, which gives him a good chance of getting the bill through, providing it has cross-party support.

"We want to see these combat knives taken out of circulation, their sale banned and their marketing and advertising, and we think we have got words which achieve that," Mr Straw said.

Mr Howard will have to indicate whether he is prepared to support it to the Opposition before November 19, the deadline for submitting private members' bills. Politically, it would be difficult for Conservatives to be opposed to such a bill.



LABOUR is tuning at reports that Tony Blair has restyled his hair to appeal to women. So the Guardian asked a leading hairdresser to suggest new looks for four top politicians. The results are on page 3.

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The Guardian

To our readers,

Over recent weeks, we have been experiencing production problems which have seriously affected our distribution in some countries.

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Sketch

Deadly lure of a patriotic poppy



Simon Hoggart

IN THE distant past, only a few Labour MPs wore poppies at this time of year. It was thought, I suppose, a little militaristic by the younger members, though I cannot think why, since the great majority of the soldiers who died in the two world wars were civilian conscripts.

Now, under New Labour, almost all of them sport patriotic poppies. Some would wear dress uniform and medals if they could. What's more, a sort of "poppler than thou" competition has grown up. Most still wear the standard one-dimensional flower with a bit of plastic leaf.

But Stuart Bell (Lab, Middlesbrough) has a far more luxuriant bloom. His poppy, the size of a saucer, is as luxuriant and petalled as an orchid, surrounded by what appears to be a miniature rain forest. (I exaggerate, but not much.)

One half expects David Attenborough to creep up to Mr Bell's poppy, and with that wonderful voice, husky yet husky, tell us: "This flower, Papaver Indica Spokespersonensis, or to give it its technical name, The Giant Flesh-Eating Poppy, is beautiful — but it is deadly."

"If a Tory backbencher, lured into range by the deep crimson leaves and the lush foliage, were to stray near the blossom, poisonous tendrils would leap out and drag the helpless, struggling politician to his doom. Within five minutes, the poppy's digestive juices, which can liquefy a Volkswagen Golf..."

Just a fantasy, though one which was hypnotic, since Mr Bell has personally discovered an entirely new species of parliamentary horse manure to fertilise his poppy.

For years now, Tory ministers have been blaming the problems of our nation on 17 years of Labour misrule. The doubling of crime, for

instance, is frequently charged to Labour's failure to support the last 33 crime bills.

As we all know, many a young leaver, on being apprehended by the police, has said: "Coo, if you haven't got me bang to rights and no mistake, gov nor. But since I heard that them toffs in New Labour had failed to give whole-hearted backing to the statutory and of the automatic right to silence, I've told my brief to spin things out till the next election. And while I'm waiting, I'll mug a few more old ladies as well as peddling deadly hard drugs outside our schools."

Mr Bell, his poppy seeming to pulse dangerously in the late autumn sunshine, went onto the precise opposite tack. Instead of claiming that our present ills are the fault of the Labour opposition, he alleged that whatever is going right now could be credited to a future Labour government.

He congratulated ministers on "this inward investment" which he said was "pouring in". But foreigners could read the polls and, he added, they were sending us all this cash because they were looking forward to the new Labour government.

This was a piece of sophistry that would do credit to a Tory backbencher. I congratulate Mr Bell. But I hope he will take care of his poppy and give it plenty to eat — rodents, household pets, etc. — so that it does not reach over this afternoon and swallow Mr Blair, bald head and all.

Speaking of hairdos, I had intended yesterday to return to the subject of my old friend Michael Fabricant. (I recently received from him a two-page letter which I am honour-bound not to quote, but to which I shall reply in due course.)

Mr Fabricant was due to ask question 19, about trade with the Far East. Normally he would have been in his seat at 2.30, twitching nervously as his turn approached. But he never appeared, and the Speaker glided smoothly from question 18 to 20.

I, and many Labour MPs, were shocked and worried. I desperately hope he is not ill. I shall pass on any news as soon as I receive it.



Benazir Bhutto accuses President Farooq Leghari of plotting against her and fabricating stories of corruption at a press conference in her home yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: MUZAMMIL PAKSA

Defiant Bhutto fights back

President accused of kidnapping husband

Suzanne Goldenberg in Islamabad

BENAZIR Bhutto broke an imposed silence with a bravura performance yesterday, sneering at the president who sacked her and accusing him of ordering the kidnap of her husband.

Wearing black and her face pale beneath a white scarf, Ms Bhutto — defiant and full

of fire — started her campaign to reverse her dismissal on Tuesday by President Farooq Leghari.

Clearly enjoying her first audience since she had been confined to her home, and all her telephones cut off, Ms Bhutto reserved much of her wrath for Mr Leghari. She accused him of plotting against her for months, fabricating stories of mismanagement and corruption to provide a pretext for his takeover, and the detention of her

husband and investment minister, Asif Ali Zardari.

"It seems that power is such an intoxicant the people who sit on the chair forget that the masters of the destiny are the people," Ms Bhutto said. She dared him to resign and said both should go to the people in elections scheduled for February 3.

But amid the defiance, there was an appeal for sympathy. "I don't know where my husband is," she said, threatening to file kidnapping charges against the president if Mr Zardari is not produced before his lawyers.

Ms Bhutto also used the press conference to drive home her contention that the killing of her brother, Mur-

taza, by police in Karachi in September presaged an attempt to unseat her.

"My brother's murder was a premeditated conspiracy to destabilise Pakistan," she said. "Murtaza Bhutto was killed to destabilise the government of Benazir Bhutto. There are people who want to get the Bhuttos." Murtaza's murder was one of the main reasons cited in Mr Leghari's dissolution order.

She said Mr Leghari's action, a betrayal of democratic and Islamic values, stung all the more bitterly because he had been a loyal supporter in her Pakistan People's Party for 20 years before she helped him to become president. "I took a man who was

my number two and a very good number two. He had no vision, he had no strategy, but he was a very good implementer." She was scathing about the restrictions on her movements, saying it revived memories of the generals who handed her father in 1979, and that she was being victimised as the heir to his political dynasty.

The new administration has denied putting Ms Bhutto under house arrest, and yesterday said she was free to leave her official residence. Ms Bhutto held an executive meeting of her party and at 5pm, the gates that guard the road leading to her hilltop mansion opened for a convoy of journalists' cars.

But she was less successful in tracing her husband. Aides distributed copies of a letter to the president, which detailed her efforts to learn his whereabouts from the army and the caretaker government. "I can only surmise that you have ordered the kidnapping through the Rangers or other forces in an illegal and unconstitutional manner and I apprehend that you are having him tortured," she wrote.

No charges have been brought against Mr Zardari. However, Irshad Haqqani, information minister in the caretaker government, said: "Asif Ali Zardari is in protective custody. It means there is something against him. An inquiry is on."

Review

Passage to India without the guilt

Michael Billington

A Perfect Ganesh West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

INDIA as a place of self-discovery and cultural conflict is the theme of countless novels, films and plays. What makes Terence McNally's *A Perfect Ganesh*, getting its British premiere at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, both unusual and poignant is his sees India from an American perspective and makes the elephant-headed Hindu god Ganesh as much a part of the action as Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

McNally's wise and charming play shows two mature Connecticut women frantically undertaking a two-week tour of India from Bombay to Rajasthan. Margaret is a self-styled bossy bitch who wants to see India from a distance and whose tough manner conceals an aching fear of breast cancer. Katharine is a vulnerable woman who yearns to experience everything and who is still mourning her gay son, who suffered a queer-bashing death. But, even before they leave JFK, the women's footsteps are dogged by Ganesh, who takes multiple forms and reveals the power to remove obstacles.

One of McNally's key points is that our experience of India is shadowed by cultural history. The women's stay at the Lake Palace in Udaipur reminds them of a Jewel in the Crown and Margaret's suspicion that her cancerous breast has been touched up in a train-tunnel evokes *Passage to India*. But, where Brit-

ish writers are inevitably weighed down by the heavy baggage of colonial guilt, McNally refreshingly sees India as a place that, in spite of mutual misunderstanding, still has the capacity to heal.

What makes his play original is the ubiquitous presence of the god, Ganesh, who variously turns up as travel courier, Japanese tourist and hotel chambermaid, but also in his own rat-riding person as a source of wisdom about the need to embrace opposites. Not the least of the play's themes is that we need to accept death with as much grace and courage as life; and, although the action reveals an exceptionally high mortality rate, McNally movingly shows his main characters undergoing a genuine transformation.

McNally's work is strangely neglected in Britain. Here, under an episodic structure, he shows the subcontinent's capacity to change human lives. Jude Kelly's production is also bound together by Robin Don's unfolding design, which implies the colourful confusion of India, and by a fine quartet of performances. Prunella Scales's Margaret is all captious prissiness camouflaging undisclosed emotion. Eleanor Bron displays the cultural voracity of the closest hipple. Paul Bhattacharjee silkily embodies Ganesh's mischief and benevolence, and Tristan Sharps understatedly plays a variety of characters mostly afflicted by death. An intriguing play that, in its vision of a world surrounded by beneficent immortals, artfully combines Hinduism and Shakespeare and that finally argues "allow, accept, be".

Child porn suspect killed himself to avoid shame

A COMPUTER technician, charged with downloading child pornography from the Internet, killed himself rather than face public shame, an inquest decided yesterday.

The North East Cumbria coroner, Ian Morton, said father of three Robert Bickerstaffe, aged 48, from Merseyside, committed suicide in his car at a Lake District beauty

spot after his arrest for possession of "graphic" images of naked children.

Mr Bickerstaffe, a senior computer technician at Liverpool university, was interviewed by detectives in August this year after colleagues became suspicious of the contents of his files.

A Home Office pathologist said death was due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

CBI denies parties support in run-up to election

Simon Beavis and Larry Elliott

THE CBI last night dashed the hopes of the two main political parties that it would take sides in the election battle when its director general insisted on a strict neutrality in the six months to polling day.

In an interview ahead of the CBI's annual conference, Aday Turner took a swipe at the Conservatives and Labour — mixing a warning to the Chancellor over Budget tax giveaways with a message to Tony Blair that his windfall tax plans would land Labour in a legal morass.

Mr Turner said it was sensible to be talking to the shadow cabinet as well as keeping lines open with ministers. Welcoming Labour's move to the political centre, he added: "We want to see a lot of continuity. I don't think miracle cures are needed or desirable."

The CBI's break with its traditional backing for the



Aday Turner... warned against miracle cures

Conservatives has aroused little controversy in employers' organisation. However, some observers believe Mr Turner will come under pressure as the election nears to come off the fence.

"We are going to maintain a neutral policy stance while commenting on individual

policies which we either agree or disagree with. I hope there will be no pressure. I have no intention of abandoning our neutrality," he said.

With the pound soaring on the exchanges, Mr Turner said any further rise would be "unattractive". The CBI wanted to see any tightening of economic policy coming through a tougher Budget rather than higher interest rates.

"If Kenneth Clarke said he had no changes at all to make on the tax side, that would not be an unattractive Budget from our point of view," he added.

The CBI believes the Chancellor could hand out a maximum of £1 billion in tax cuts — equivalent to only 0.5 per cent of the basic rate of income tax — when he delivers his fourth Budget this month.

Mr Turner stressed that industry would be unhappy if pre-election tax cuts were at the expense of spending on infrastructure and education. The CBI director general was careful to balance his warnings to Mr Clarke with a

strong attack on Labour's pledge to finance a job creation programme from a one-off levy on the profits of the privatised utilities.

Despite Labour's insistence that it can come up with a watertight formula for the tax, Mr Turner said it would be almost impossible for the Opposition to devise a workable definition either for excess profits or for which companies should be targeted.

Predicting that the tax would be "a real dog's breakfast", Mr Turner said: "They are going to find it immensely difficult to work out a coherent basis for the tax which is not arbitrary. If it is arbitrary, it will be contestable and is likely to be contested."

The CBI has softened its line on a minimum wage and the social chapter, however. It recognises that Labour would introduce a statutory floor for

wages, and is concentrating on ensuring that the wage is set at around £3 an hour.

On Europe, the CBI is calling for all options to be left open, including joining the single currency in the first wave. It will not be issue a line on whether the UK should sign up for monetary union until the middle of next year, after the election.

Adair unfettered; page 12

Lockerbie relatives offered £500,000 compensation

Bereaved father tells of anguish caused by delay in reaching a deal

Erfend Clouston

THE father of one of the Lockerbie air disaster victims yesterday criticised the delay in securing a compensation offer for relatives, believed to be about £500,000 for each death.

Reverend John Mosey called for bereaved families to receive immediately the £75,000 (about \$17,000) they are entitled to under international law, without prejudice to any subsequent legal action.

Rev Mosey, whose 19-year-old daughter Helga died with 258 others when Pan Am flight 103 blew up over Lockerbie eight years ago, made his comments after the secretary of the Lockerbie Air Disaster group confirmed that 14 British families were considering offers made by the airline's insurers.

Peter Watson, a Glasgow-based lawyer, would not confirm the details of the proposal, achieved after years of legal battles with United States Aviation Underwriters, the main insurance company in the Lockerbie case.

"The families are in receipt of advice from us, but I can't tell you what that is," said Mr Watson, who successfully challenged the conspiracy theories of Pan Am's insurers in the crucial 1992 New York trial which found the airline guilty of "willful misconduct".

The families of the 11 ground victims of the terrorist act, which generated Scotland's largest criminal inquiry, settled their claims some time ago.

Rev Mosey, a Pentecostal minister, has recently been forced to leave his job at Glosop, in Derbyshire, because of the recurring stress of his daughter's death. Helga had been due to take up a nanny's job in New Jersey before returning to study music at Lancaster University.

"Something ought to be done so that people can receive at least the statutory carrier's liability immedi-

ately," he said yesterday. "It is a very expensive business, losing your child. We found, as most families found in the first two years, that we needed to run away at times."

The Moseys also had the expense of regular trips to London to lobby MPs.

The delay in a possible settlement was mainly due to the instincts of United States Aviation Underwriters to reduce their responsibility as much as possible.

While Britain and the US issued arrest warrants for two Libyans alleged to have smuggled a bomb through security in an unaccompanied suitcase, the company was exploring allegations that other terrorists had piggybacked covert US government operations.

Martin Cadman, whose 32-year-old son Bill, a former Pink Floyd sound engineer, also died in the disaster, said last night that the compensation would at least give the families "a little touch of freedom".

"It is no substitute for our loss, but it means we can do something with this, something maybe in the memory of the person who died."

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The haircuts that could gel with the voters

Thinning majority? How to stay ahead in style

Former Men's Hairdresser of the Year Damien Carney runs a celebrity salon in Covent Garden. His regular clients include Grace Jones, Jane Horrocks, and supermodel Karen Mulder. Here, he scrutinises the hairstyles of Tony Blair, Robin Cook, John Major and Michael Heseltine, and suggests some radical, follically challenging alternatives. LUKE HARDING reports.



TONY BLAIR: "He looks generally OK. He has got the advantage of youth. But since he became party leader he has lost quite a lot of hair and appears to have aged fairly rapidly." Marks: 6/10.

Solution: "A sort of hip short back and sides à la Sean Connery. It is a style very popular with women and works well regardless of age. He needs to lose some hair around the sides and the top."



MICHAEL HESELTINE: "He has a sort of Gish look for his age group. His hair is striking, quite long on the top and very long everywhere else." Marks: 7/10.

Solution: "He needs to get his eyebrows plucked. They have to be cut down. At the moment they are ridiculously bushy. "His hair is halfway there but it needs a bit of a tweak. I would suggest keeping the same style but chopping a lot off the length."



ROBIN COOK: "The texture of his hair is a bit like Arthur Scargill's. He has mad, unruly hair and sometimes looks as if he has been dragged through a bush several times." Marks: 4/10.

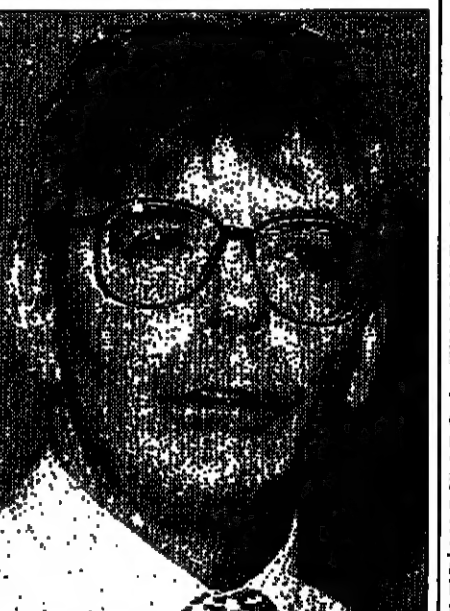
Solution: "He could benefit from using some styling products. Generally the effect of a beard is to accentuate the face. If you have hair like his the best thing to do is to go for short hair closely cropped."



JOHN MAJOR: "Pretty OK. He has grey hair and a grey skin complexion and they blend rather well into one another. He plays safe by covering his ears." Marks: 6/10.

Solution: "He would look sharper by having the hair cut away from his face. He should go to a trendy salon and have it layered on the top. He could also benefit from a bit of gel. If Norma were then to ruffle his hair a bit, he might even look, er, sexy."

ARTIST'S IMPRESSIONS: LIZ COULDWELL



Blair admits bald facts as stylists tackle gender gap

Michael White and Rebecca Smithers

TONY BLAIR finally admitted yesterday that he is losing his hair, but only to rebut allegations that he is restyling it to avoid losing votes as well.

The Labour leader's office took the rare step of issuing a press release containing "before and after" photos of Mr Blair (actually the same picture) to deride a report in the Financial Times under the headline "Blair wows women voters with new hairstyle".

The newspaper, which last night stood by its story, reported that Mr Blair's "boudant hairstyle" was one reason why he was less popular than John Major among female voters.

Historically Labour polls better among men, a "gender gap" the once-macho party has fought to narrow. The 9 per cent gap in the 1992 election was entirely due to over-55s, officials said last night, and had now been closed. Women's groups doubt it.

It was after focus group research on this key issue, the FT reported, that Mr Blair decided to make his language more women-friendly and to be seen in more feminine environments. He was also "fattening" his hairstyle.

There is, however, a core problem familiar to politicians since the age of TV politics began with Jack Kennedy in 1960. Except in super-sophisticated France, balding candidates such as Neil Kinnock tend to lose.

This may be why Labour's Bryan Gould admitted to standing on his head to improve blood circulation and fight off follicle decay.

The very notion that women voters may be susceptible to the crimpier arts yesterday enraged female MPs close to Mr Blair, let alone that they had advised him to adopt a "softer" image and approach.

"It is outrageous and completely insulting to even suggest that the role of Labour's women MPs is to advise Tony Blair on his hairstyle," one frontbencher said. "An even more worrying is the suggestion that women are more interested in 'soft' than serious issues."

Helen Wilkinson, project director of the cross-party think-tank Demos and an expert on gender and generational shifts in women's attitudes, said one of the reasons for the marked decline in Mr Blair's support among women since March might be his transition from Bambi to Stalin.

Smokers 'more likely to get breast cancer'

Nick Varley

WOMEN who smoke heavily could be up to four times as likely to develop breast cancer, according to research that claims, for the first time, a link between cigarettes and the disease.

American scientists say women smoking more than 20 cigarettes a day who also have damage to a gene that neutralises cancer-inducing chemicals in tobacco smoke are at significant risk.

But last night a leading British cancer expert, Professor Richard Peto, cast doubt on the findings, which could offer hope that some of the 25,000 women diagnosed with breast cancer in Britain each year could take preventive action.

"Just for once, smoking is being accused of something that it doesn't do," he said. The American researchers compared 324 New York women suffering from breast cancer with 327 healthy city women. In the smokers who also had the deformed gene — which occurs naturally, at rates of between 10 and 50 per cent of women, depending on race — cancer was four times as common.

The study, by researchers at the National Cancer Institute, near Washington DC, and the National Center for Toxicological Research, in Jefferson, Arkansas, is the latest to suggest a possible cause for breast cancer.

In the past it has been linked to eating too much fat, hormone replacement therapy, oral contraceptives and radiation. But, with the claimed link with a natural mutation found in up to half of white women, 35 per cent of African-Americans, 20 per cent of Chinese and 10 per cent of Asians, the new research is the first to suggest a genetic susceptibility.

A report on the work, due to be published in the Journal of the American Medical Association next week, appears today in New Scientist magazine.

But Professor Peto, co-director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's cancer studies unit in Oxford, said: "Tobacco kills half of all regular smokers and is far and away the most important cause of cancer in women, but it doesn't have much effect on breast cancer. These new results must be largely due to the play of chance."

If the link to smoking is confirmed, however, it will be the latest breakthrough in a series that have offered increased knowledge of the disease in recent months.

One team of US scientists suggested last month that undergoing an abortion increased the chances of breast cancer by 30 per cent, though UK groups were sceptical.

Also last month, further work in America was claimed as conclusive proof of the general link between smoking and cancer. Scientists claimed they had found how tobacco smoke caused the changes that provoked mutations in the genes — again preventing their anti-cancer role — and allowing tumours to develop in the lung.

India contests London auction of Gandhi's 'old scribbles'

Kamal Ahmed

THE SALE of Mahatma Gandhi's handwritten speeches and letters, said to equal the greatest prime ministerial collection, was in jeopardy last night after pressure from the Indian government and the charitable trust charged with looking after the Gandhi archive.

Venkataram Kalyanam, the previous owner of the documents, sent a fax to Phillips on Tuesday saying he did not want the sale, which Phillips has described as outstanding, to go ahead.

Mr Kalyanam, who was one of Gandhi's secretaries in the 1940s and has looked after the documents for nearly 50 years, said he was forced to withdraw from the auction after the Navjeevan Trust, which owns the rights to Gandhi's work, said it had not been consulted.

The Indian government, concerned that the papers could be lost to America, backed the trust. The deputy director of the Nehru Memorial Museum in New Delhi

visited Mr Kalyanam in Madras to persuade him that the papers should be given to India's national archive.

The documents, which have been valued at \$1 million, include Gandhi's thoughts on independence, partition and the inter-communal violence which threatened to engulf India.

They were discovered in a suitcase which Mr Kalyanam had kept since he worked for Gandhi. Many are written with a reed pen, which Gandhi preferred to Western fountain pens, on the backs of envelopes and on scraps of paper.

"It was told that these old scribbles might be worth something in Europe," said Mr Kalyanam, who is in his seventies.

In January he gave them to a Hindu organisation in Hawaii which said the sale would fund a temple on the island of Kauai. The organisation has yet to respond to the request for the sale to be cancelled and John Parsons, Phillips's company secretary, said the matter was in the hands of its lawyers.

Labour lead cut to 13 points

continued from page 1
The swing to the Conservatives is nevertheless underlined in ICM's unadjusted figures. These results show a sharper swing to the Tories, with Labour on 48 per cent (down 6 points from October), Conservatives 33 (up 6), Liberal Democrats 15 (no change), and others 4 (down 1). The unadjusted Labour lead this month is 15 points (down 12). This is Labour's lowest unadjusted lead for three years.

There is further good news for the Conservatives in voters' views on the economy. Labour's lead as the party which has the best policies for dealing with the economy has been cut from 15 points in October to six points in November, giving the Chancellor the ideal platform on which to consolidate the pro-Tory trend on Budget Day.

ICM interviewed a random sample of 1,302 adults aged 18 and over by telephone between November 1-2. Interviews were conducted across the country and the results have been weighted to the profile of all adults.

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The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Sarah, 52, and married for 20 years to a wealthy businessman who left her for his secretary in 1994, cannot be photographed or named because she is afraid that her ex would cut the maintenance if she spoke out. Joanna Moorhead meets members of the real First Wives Club

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4 BRITAIN

News in brief

Health staff cleared over care for killer

MEDICAL staff were yesterday cleared of blame over their treatment of psychopath Richard Burton, who stabbed his landlady to death while undergoing care in the community. Burton killed Janice Symons in her Leicester home in May last year. He later admitted manslaughter with diminished responsibility at Leicester crown court and in July last year was sent to Rampton high security hospital indefinitely. Leicestershire health authority commissioned an independent inquiry into the case and its report, published yesterday, cleared medical staff of responsibility. During his trial it emerged that Burton, who had been treated for mental illness since 1983, had a severe psychopathic personality disorder. But the report said no one at the time considered him a danger to others. However, Mrs Symons was not told that Burton had been receiving treatment and her relatives today dismissed the findings and warned they would now consider taking further action.

Welsh drinkers optimistic

THE wets were last night cautiously optimistic about defeating the dries in the final showdown of the battle for the soul of the Welsh Sunday. Yesterday more than 90,000 north Welsh voters were invited to register an answer to the question: "Are you for or against the opening of licensed premises in the county of Gwynedd on Sundays for the sale of intoxicating liquor?" The whole of Wales was dry on Sundays for 115 years. But in 1961 local referendums, held every seven years, were introduced and since then the whole of Wales apart from a section of Gwynedd has voted to become wet. The Government has decreed that the latest vote will be binding for ever. — David Ward

Falklands war enemies meet

OLD enemies from the Falklands conflict were reconciled yesterday as the Argentine general Martin Balza, who spent two weeks as a prisoner of war in 1982, shook hands in London with the British commander General Sir Jeremy Moore. The Argentine general had asked to interrupt his official visit to the UK — the first at this level since the war ended — to meet the man who defeated him. — David Fairhall

US police in murder hunt

POLICE in the United States are hunting a gunman believed to have shot dead a British man and a woman. James Hancox, aged 32, from Gloucestershire, and the woman were killed in Pahump, Nevada, at the weekend, police said. Sgt Bill Becht said: "He met his girlfriend, or a girl, at the bar. They went to her residence, and an ex-boyfriend showed up there some time after they arrived home, and broke into the residence, firing numerous rounds into both her and him."

Customs seize bootleg vodka

CUSTOMS officers have seized 50 litres of bootleg vodka from Russian factory ships anchored on the south coast which officials say is so strong it can turn drivers blind. The Russian home-brew was stored in bottles bearing the label 'Russiya Vodka' and customs officers fear some of it may have been passed on to locals buying cheap drinks for Christmas. The haul was discovered on board one of the ships anchored in Weymouth Bay, Dorset, and is being analysed by government scientists at a laboratory in Portsmouth.

153mph man back in trouble

A MOTORIST jailed after he set a British record for speeding on a motorway of 153 mph has admitted driving while disqualified. Achille Mazzotta, aged 33, from Swindon, Wiltshire, was clocked travelling at 153.9 mph in his BMW on the M5 in November 1995. He was jailed for six months and banned from driving until 1998. Now Mazzotta has pleaded guilty to a charge of driving while disqualified when he appeared before magistrates at Swindon yesterday after being spotted behind the wheel of a Mini Metro.

Blair will get a tough backroom fixer with the looks of a choirboy

Ian Katz on Bill Clinton's comeback kid

WHEN the romantic comedy *The American* President began playing last year, even the least politically astute cinemagoers realised instantly that the character played by Michael J Fox was based on President Clinton's close adviser, George Stephanopoulos. The White House aide portrayed by Mr Fox was clever, dashing and short — just like Mr Stephanopoulos. Both fretted constantly, enjoyed unrivalled access to the President and were among the most left-leaning members of the White House inner circle.

Five years after he shot to prominence as the energetic and unflappable communications director of Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, the 35-year-old White House aide is a singular figure on the American political scene: a "back room" operative who is more famous than many of the country's most prominent elected politicians.

The inspiration for the narrator of the best-selling novel *Primary Colors*, as well as the adviser played by Mr Fox, he occupies a space in American public life somewhat between Washington and Hollywood, attracting fan mail and crowds of admirers wherever he speaks.

More than anyone else, Mr Stephanopoulos came to symbolise the youthful energy and exuberance of the 1992 Clinton campaign — and then the ineptitude and arrogance of its inexperienced personnel as they grappled with the demands of running the White House.

Though his demise has been frequently predicted, Mr Stephanopoulos has shown remarkable durability, outlasting all the other members



George Stephanopoulos, right, with Bill Clinton and the presidential counsellor Mack McLarty. PHOTOGRAPH BY BENJAMIN WATZ

sive. Suddenly his sharp suits and fashionably coiffed mop of dark hair seemed too trendy and insubstantial. Adoring references to his grueling daily workout gave way to reports that he had dumped his longtime girlfriend for the movie actress, Jennifer Grey.

When he was moved from the job of White House spokesman to an ill-defined role as senior adviser after less than six months, many predicted his star was on the wane. But he continued to enjoy unrivalled access to the President, putting in 13-hour days in a little office about the Oval Office.

In a recent interview, Mr Stephanopoulos described his role in the Clinton White

House: "I give advice. We have a series of meetings throughout the day. What I try to do is to pay attention to the intersection of the policy proposal, the press and the political consequences."

Despite his choirboy looks, colleagues describe him as a political tough who can hold his own in any backroom scrap. When political hired gun Dick Morris vied with him for the President's favour after the 1994 electoral disaster, Mr Stephanopoulos eventually prevailed.

After Mr Morris pressed for President Clinton to launch a manned mission to Mars following the discovery of signs of life in a meteor, Mr Stephanopoulos acidly opened a meeting by an-

nouncing that he had good and bad news for his rival. The good news was that there would be a manned mission, the bad news was that Mr Morris would be the man. Though he has served as an effective proxy for Mr Clinton during the 1992 campaign, appearing at countless fundraisers and rallies, colleagues say Mr Stephanopoulos's greatest skill is in packaging potentially unpopular policies and countering the attacks of political opponents. He was credited with devising the President's "mend, don't end" policy, which preserved most government affirmative action programmes in the face of a widespread public revolt against the idea of positive discrimination. He also won plaudits for masterminding the White House's effort to paint Republican leaders as irresponsible extremists after a stand-off over the budget led to closure of the federal government. Announcing his decision to leave the White House early in President Clinton's second term, Mr Stephanopoulos said he was physically exhausted: "I've had a great run, a great ride, but it feels like I'm done... I can't do it any more." Like President Clinton, Mr Stephanopoulos won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, where he studied political theology. A wrestler and soccer player at college, he was enthusiastic about English football but said he found English women "cold".

Hard-up UK citizens fall below European Union poverty line

Stephen Bates in Brussels

NEARLY one household in six in Britain is living below the poverty line, putting the country on a par with some of the poorest states in the European Union, according to a report published yesterday.

It says Britain is investing less in its regions than other EU countries, that employment growth in old industrial regions such as South Yorkshire and the West Midlands is among the most sluggish in Europe and that productivity is low.

The Cohesion Report, published by the European Commission in Brussels, was intended to highlight the progress made across the EU to even out regional disparities between rich and poor areas, but it also showed that income differences within

member states have remained largely unchanged over the past 10 years.

The report points to a comparison between Brittany and East Anglia, which have similar levels of prosperity. While the French government donates the equivalent of three per cent of Britain's gross domestic product to the region, East Anglia transfers three per cent of its GDP to the state. On poverty — defined as households having less than 50 per cent of the national average income — Britain fares among the worst of the EU states.

It has about 17 per cent of all households on or below the poverty line — the same as Spain and only a little ahead of Greece and Italy — way behind Germany (1 per cent) or the Benelux countries (five per cent).

The report brackets British income in some regions with

the Government's lip-service to the principle of devolving authority.

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The report brackets British income in some regions with

the peasant economies of southern Europe and the west of Ireland, and the "rust belt" of the former Eastern bloc. It states: "Income per head is below average in all the southern peripheral Mediterranean regions as well as ... in Ireland and parts of the UK."

But it acknowledges that unemployment has declined in Britain — which no longer features among the list of the 25 worst regional blackspots as it did in 1983 when no less than eight of the EU's worst areas were in Britain.

Leaders of the European Parliament in Brussels met last night to discuss urgent reforms to stop the abuse by MEPs of expenses and allowances. Public concern has mounted over the payments claimed by MEPs for their monthly visits to parliamentary sessions in Brussels and Strasbourg.

British Medical Association defines limits of doctors' duties

GPs' leaders call for extra pay to cover care for the elderly

David Brindley, Social Services Correspondent

LEADERS of 36,000 family doctors yesterday asked the Government to take on any new elderly patients in care homes unless they are paid extra.

The move, which could eventually affect 500,000 people in care homes, came as the British Medical Association drew a line around what it considers general practitioners are contractually required to do, and set out more than 80 examples of "non-core" tasks for which it says they should seek additional payment.

The association issued every GP with *pro forma* letters to send to health authorities to demand that they be given notice of intent to stop doing non-core duties, including treatment of new home residents.

Ian Bogle, chairman of the BMA's GP committee, said authorities should be given plenty of notice of such action. But it would "not be unreasonable" to expect them to have alternative arrange-

ments in place by April 1.

The charity Age Concern expressed alarm at the development. A spokesman said: "Older people are yet again being targeted in the search for solutions to funding problems."

The BMA's move — on the 50th anniversary of the granting of royal assent to the act that created the NHS — has shocked the Department of Health, which was told about it only late on Tuesday and which thought it had established a dialogue with the medical profession on developing primary care.

A department spokesman said: "We are in discussion with the profession on how services will be delivered by family doctors in future. This is all part of the primary care development programme."

The BMA says it has been forced to act by the growing trend of hospitals passing the burden — and costs — of care to GPs, who have an open-ended contract. By defining core services, it will protect the essential family doctor service from erosion by new expectations of it in areas such as minor surgery, com-

plex drug therapies and care of severely mentally ill people.

Critics, on the other hand, will see the move as a thinly-veiled attempt to get extra payments for GPs for all future service developments — and many that have already taken place.

The pay structure for GPs is complex, but designed to give them an average net remuneration of £44,770. Some have already negotiated contracts with their local health authorities for extra pay for tasks formerly undertaken by hospitals.

The most contentious of the BMA's ideas is that GPs should withdraw from care homes for people in nursing and residential homes, continuing to treat people already on their practice lists but refusing any further registrations without special payment.

Dr Bogle said the elderly residents of such homes would in the past have been cared for on hospital geriatric wards. They had high levels of dependency and high costs which had been shunted into the primary-care sector.

"They require an approach that resembles the old ward rounds in hospitals."

"General practice is not geared up to cope with this demand."

However, Dr Bogle said, GPs could tender for contracts to supply services to care homes if they felt they had the necessary experience and if the contract income would enable them to continue providing full care services to their registered patients.

Chris Vellenoweth, for the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts, said care home residents had the same right as every other citizen to register with a GP.

"I do not believe that right can be extinguished by a view being taken by a particular group of interests."

However, the Age Concern spokesman warned: "If health authority contracts for GP care in residential and nursing homes are not in place in time, here is a real risk that older people will end up in hospitals if home managers have nowhere else to turn."

'Guilty' Britons told to enjoy life

Sarah Bosoley

WE BRITISH are a pleasure-loving nation, according to Professor Warburton, the United Kingdom came second in the pleasure league, but third in the guilt league out of eight countries where attitudes were polled. Most laid-back were the Dutch, who enjoyed themselves the most, and felt the least guilt.

Professor Warburton is founder of a group of some 60

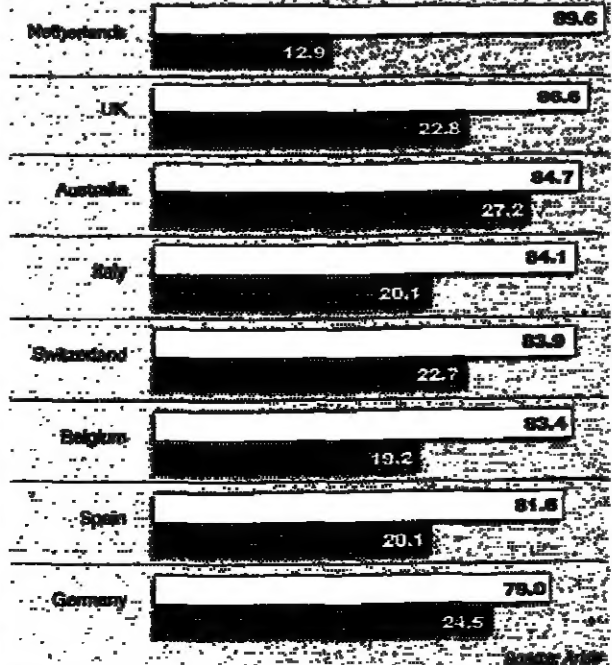
scientists worldwide with the tongue-in-cheek acronym of Arise — the Association for Research into the Science of Enjoyment. But the science is serious, he says. Enjoyment revives stress and enhances the immune system, they have found, while guilt is potentially damaging.

"In its extreme, guilt can impair attentiveness making people forgetful and more prone to error," he said. "Chronic guilt can induce stress and depression which could lead to eating disorders and contribute to infection, ulcers, heart problems and even brain damage."

Those activities people feel most guilty about are the lack of sport and exercise, cakes and ice cream, smoking and eating chocolate. In the "second division" come beer, wine and spirits, shopping for pleasure, TV and videos. In the third division are red meat, sex, cheese, cream and butter, eating out and tea and coffee.

A little of what you fancy...

Study of enjoyment and the guilt associated with those activities. Eight selected countries.



GCHQ staff association 'not an independent trade union'

THE Government faces renewed international criticism of its ban on unions at the electronic spying centre GCHQ after the "sweetheart" staff federation was yesterday refused a certificate of independence by the Government-appointed trade union certification officer, writes Seamus Milne.

The surprise ruling follows a government attempt to head off condemnation by the International Labour Organisation earlier this year by vetoing the GCHQ director's lifting of the federation's leadership.

But Ted Whybrow, the certification officer, found that the federation, set up by the Government after trade union membership was banned at GCHQ in 1994 — could still

not be described as free of interference or domination by the employer.

The federation was still restricted to GCHQ employees, he said, blocked from outside affiliations and links, banned from taking industrial action, dependent on employer-provided facilities and its members had restricted access to industrial tribunals.

The finding will ease pressure on Labour, which is publicly committed to restoring full union rights at GCHQ, but made clear earlier this year that it might recognise the staff federation if it was registered as an independent trade union.

The federation is thought to have around 2,500 members out of the 5,500 civilians now working at GCHQ.

Mini-mice offer prospect of longer lives to shorter people

SHORTIES may have the last laugh according to research which suggests a link between small size and long life expectancy.

Scientists in America have found that dwarf mice with a hormone deficiency live up to twice as long as normal sized ones — and the reason appears to be the lack of growth hormone.

In other studies mice with too much growth hormone have died earlier due to premature ageing.

Restricting caloric intake, which reduces growth hormone secretion, has also been found to extend lifespan in rodents — while reduced lifespan has been reported in human patients with excess growth hormone who suffer from gigantism.

In a letter to the science journal *Nature*, the researchers led by Holly Brown-Borg from North Dakota university wrote: "Small breeds of dogs and horses tend to live longer than larger breeds, and shorter people may live longer than taller people from the same population."

The genetically engineered Ames dwarf mice used in the research are missing the pituitary cells which produce growth hormone.

The team compared 28 normal and 34 dwarf mice which were kept in the same conditions and fed the same food. They found the dwarfs lived much longer, with a difference of more than 300 days for males and more than 470 days for females.

سكولنا العربي

The president is back in charge, on paper at least

Surgeon talks up Yeltsin's recovery

David Hearst in Moscow

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin, surprising doctors with the pace of his recovery after quintuple heart bypass surgery, resumed full presidential duties yesterday and began lobbying doctors to let him leave hospital.

On waking yesterday at 6am, the patient signed a decree taking back the full powers of the presidency, including control of the nuclear button, which he had surrendered to his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, 23 hours before. Mr Chernomyrdin said: "That means that the president is already at work."

The prime minister said he then briefed the president on events that had taken place in Russia while the operation was being carried out. The American heart bypass pioneer, Dr Michael DeBakey, meanwhile declared that he doubted whether President Yeltsin could have continued as the leader of Russia for much longer had he not had the operation.

Yesterday doctors said they had bypassed five clogged arteries around the president's heart. This revelation showed the extent of the damage they found, and cast doubt in Moscow medical circles over how full a recovery Mr Yeltsin could make.

Dr DeBakey was unambiguously optimistic, predicting that the president would be back at work in two months, and playing tennis "within three or four". He said the

Dr DeBakey said the president would be playing tennis within three or four months

fact that the heart started promptly after being stopped for 68 minutes during the surgery was "one of the best signs we have".

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the presidential spokesman, said Mr Yeltsin was already pressing to leave the Cardiology Research Centre, where the operation was performed, for the elite Central Clinical hospital, where he was prepared for the operation, because he felt more at home there.

Mr Yastrzhembsky said doctors would meet again today to discuss the move. After meeting Mr Yeltsin yesterday, Dr DeBakey said he was delighted by his condi-

tion and warned him not to take things too fast.

"I said: 'You must be very patient because I know that you want to get going'. But I said: 'You know it's very important that you follow the doctors' instructions.'"

A medical bulletin released yesterday afternoon said the recovery process was proceeding normally in line with doctor's expectations and without complications.

These statements create the impression of a president on the mend. News of Mr Yeltsin's third heart attack in July created a major political crisis and triggered a battle for influence within the Kremlin.

● The atmosphere of scandal surrounding recent government appointments did not abate yesterday as the Jerusalem Post confirmed reports that the new deputy chairman of the security council is an Israeli citizen.

Boris Berzovsky, a tycoon and cohort of the president's chief of staff, Anatoli Chubais, has promised to sue the Russian newspaper Ivestia for breaking the story, but in a television interview did not deny the central claim that he obtained dual citizenship in 1993.

Mr Berzovsky said a campaign against his appointment was anti-Semitic. But the editor of Ivestia and its chief reporters are Jewish, and say the issue at stake is whether the citizen of another country should have access to Russia's security secrets.



One refugee child feeds another yesterday at a Rwandan camp outside Gisenyi, near the border with Zaire. PHOTOGRAPH: PETER ANDREWS

France and Spain urge 5,000-strong refugee aid force

Chris McGreal in Goma and Foreign Staff

SPAIN and France want to send a multinational force of at least 5,000 troops to open humanitarian corridors for a million starving refugees in Zaire, the foreign ministry said in Madrid yesterday. Under French prompting, United States officials are considering supplying logistics backup.

The plans, which will be discussed by President Jacques Chirac and John Major at their summit tomorrow, are given extra urgency by a United Nations report accusing Hutu extremists recently driven from their bases in eastern Zaire of plotting to invade Rwanda with the backing of Zaire, Kenya and unnamed European countries.

French and Spanish leaders discussed the intervention at a summit in Marseille on Monday and Tuesday. "It is a concrete proposal by France and Spain. In the first phase, the troops will secure humanitarian corridors for food and medicine," said a spokesman. France would send about 1,000 troops, Spain would send fewer, and the two countries hope the US and others will contribute the rest. But no other country has committed itself to sending troops, he said.

The UN report says that since fleeing into exile after organising the genocide of Rwanda's Tutsis more than two years ago, Hutu fanatics have travelled freely on passports provided by Zaire. They have raised large amounts of money by printing counterfeit US dollars in Kenya and by collecting a "war tax" from the 1.7 million Rwandan refugees in Zaire and Tanzania, the report claims. The

money has been used to buy weapons, delivered via Zaire and Kenya, in preparation for an invasion of Rwanda.

The report — by a commission investigating continuing arms shipments to the former Rwandan army and Hutu militias in breach of an international embargo — will boost sympathy for Rwanda's thinly-veiled operation to shut the sprawling refugee camps on its borders and establish a buffer zone to keep the extremists at bay.

Although Rwanda continues to deny it is backing the rebellion in eastern Zaire, there is growing evidence to the contrary, including the presence of many Kinyarwanda-speaking insurgents. The commission is continuing to investigate claims that an unidentified British company transported arms to Goma, a main base for Hutu extremists amid the sprawling refugee camps which fell to rebels at the weekend.

While Zaire and Tanzania are the centre of military activity, Nairobi is the heart of the exiles' political and financial organisation, according to the report.

Thousands of refugees are escaping the bloodshed in eastern Zaire by making a hazardous 45-mile crossing of Lake Tanganyika in small boats to Tanzania, aid workers said yesterday. The UN World Food Programme is supplying the town of Kigoma, on the Tanzanian shore of the lake, to feed the arrivals.

● South Africa has suspended a deal to supply arms to the Rwandan government after discussions with regional leaders and in light of reports of cross-border incursions by Kigali, the foreign affairs department in Pretoria said yesterday.

News in brief

Algerian rebels slit 31 civilians' throats

MUSLIM fundamentalists killed 31 people in an Algerian village on Tuesday night, security forces said. The raid took place in Sid el-Kebr, Blida province, 30 miles south of Algiers. The interior minister, Mustapha Ben Mansour, described the attack, the second in three nights, as "ignoble savagery". The victims were all civilians, he said. In the previous attack, 13 people had their throats cut at the weekend. A statement carried by the official Algerian news agency APS, said the victims had been "assassinated in a cowardly way" — a phrase that has been used in Algeria to describe the cold-blooded killing of victims by cutting their throats. About 60,000 people have been killed since January 1992, when the authorities cancelled a general election which the Islamic Salvation Front looked poised to win. — *Reuters, Paris.*

Serbs blew up refugee homes

BOSNIAN Serb authorities blew up 96 Muslim homes after the United Nations provided a list of their refugee owners who had applied to visit the properties, UN officials said yesterday. "The Serbs simply matched the 96 names to 96 abandoned homes and demolished the homes," said Kris Janowski, the spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Bosnia. "What is so discouraging is that our effort to bring people back together again was used to cement ethnic cleansing." The homes were blown up on October 24 near Prijedor. In an operation that UN and Nato sources suspect was backed or carried out by local paramilitary police. — *Reuters, Sarajevo.*



Nate Thornton from San Francisco embraces Cuban fellow International Brigades veteran Luis Rubiales in Madrid yesterday on the 60th anniversary of their arrival to fight Gen Franco's fascists in the civil war. PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL WHITE

Iceland volcano erupts

THE eruption of an Icelandic volcano sent clouds of ash and smoke soaring 14,000ft into the air yesterday. The unexpected eruption took place as a torrent of water and ice poured from the sides of the glacier that covers the remote volcano in south-east Iceland. Previous eruptions have produced a huge hidden lake that is now spilling over. — *Reuters, Reykjavik.*

Rich man's road causes rage

MOTORISTS prepared to spend nearly £4 on a 13-mile commuter ride swept into Paris from the western suburbs yesterday morning on a near-empty new toll motorway to La Defense business centre. The rest of the eastbound traffic stood immobilised in the daily snarl-up on the parallel, toll-free, A13 motorway while drivers fumed against what has been called *l'autoroute des riches*. Protests dogged the nine-year construction period of Paris's first suburban tollway. The A14 cost more than £500 million, making it the most expensive road, mile-for-mile, ever built in France. The intention was to drain traffic from the Normandy tollway, which is free in the Paris suburbs. But yesterday it was predicted that only 10 per cent of motorists could afford to use the A14. More cars might have been attracted but towns along the route refused access roads. — *Paul Webster, Paris.*

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A victory for the middle ground

Olive branch hides threat

REPUBLICANS/Truce offers will not lift Whitewater pressure reports Martin Walker

THE Republican congressional leader, Newt Gingrich, yesterday opened his battle to retain his post as Speaker of the House of Representatives by claiming a "historic victory", despite losing 10 seats in Congress.



Peace offensive: Republican congressional leader Newt Gingrich (top) and Senate leader Trent Lott

Republican congressional leader Newt Gingrich, yesterday opened his battle to retain his post as Speaker of the House of Representatives by claiming a "historic victory", despite losing 10 seats in Congress.

main message of this election. Bill Clinton said he was for less government and less taxes. He talked like a Republican. If he means that sincerely, we can work together on continuing to reduce the deficit and balance the federal budget. I think we can come to an agreement on some tax cuts that would be good for the economy and help with economic growth and make the tax code fairer.

These emollient words should not be taken at face value. Behind the scenes at the Republican national committee headquarters yesterday, senior officials told the Guardian: "As soon as he announces a single pardon [for those convicted of Whitewater offences], we've got him."

The Republicans are determined to keep up congressional inquiries into the Whitewater affair, and to open new ones into dubious Clinton campaign finance connections with Indonesian and American firms, and with a shady Russian businessman.

"I assume there is going to be an independent counsel. We will have to have some occasion to fulfil our responsibility to have some hearings, to look at what happened," Mr Lott said. "There appear to be a lot of abuses and corruption in the campaign. We need to take a look at that, and see what we need to do."

This warning shot does not imply that the country faces a crippling constitutional crisis akin to Watergate. But the Republicans see a clear advantage in being able to turn up the political heat on the White House almost at will, as negotiations begin on the next budget and the legislative agenda.

They may not need to apply the extra pressure. There is little that is contentious or partisan in Mr Clinton's plans for his second term. The tough issues of reforming Medicare and social security — before they are bankrupted by the flood of babyboomer retirements — are to be shunted out of party politics into bi-partisan commissions.

The results



A small step to the right

THE SENATE/The Republicans' grip is firmer, writes Gary Younge

REPUBLICANS were yesterday celebrating their achievement in retaining control of both houses of Congress for the first time in 88 years, as they increased their hold on the Senate.

With one state still to declare, the Republicans had increased their majority by at least one seat, taking seats previously held by Democrats in Alabama, Nebraska and President Clinton's home state of Arkansas — their first Senate victory in that state since the civil war.

THE HOUSE/Compromise is the new reality, writes Gary Younge

PRESIDENT Clinton offered an olive branch to the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, last night, after voters returned the Republicans to control of the lower chamber with a reduced but comfortable majority.

Call to end division politics

THE HOUSE/Compromise is the new reality, writes Gary Younge

With 12 races still undecided, Democrats were set to gain between five and 10 House seats. They had 200 seats, to the Republicans' 221, out of a total 435. Two seats went to independents.

Exit polls indicate that Republican candidates performed best in the south and broke even in the mid-west, while Democrats led in the east and west and picked up most of the undecided voters.

Mr Clinton can look forward to a brief legislative honeymoon. "I think the next two years will be like the last six months of the 1996 session. Even if we prevail, Republicans will be chastened," said a moderate re-elected Republican, referring to the final legislative burst which produced reform of welfare and health care and a rise in the minimum wage.

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REFERENDUMS/Plebiscites decide pressing local concerns, writes Christopher Reed

CALIFORNIA'S electorate has struck down a 30-year-old civil rights law that helped minorities and women to overcome prejudices in hiring and education. Their decision could now become a national trend.

In other referendum propositions across America — a record 90 in 24 states — voters displayed a cautious liberalism, approving the use of cannabis for the sick in California and Arizona, banning cruel hunting in five states, and rejecting a religious right-inspired law exerting total parental control over children in Colorado. But cash infusions from business prevented other reforms.

Americans also demonstrated their hatred of taxes and a suspicion of politicians, whose terms of office were limited in nine states. Various gambling proposals brought a mixed reception.

In California, which at 15 had the most plebiscite proposals, Proposition 209 won by 55-45 per cent, a clear victory for conservatives and opponents declare racism. Its misleading title, Prohibition Against Discrimination or Preferential Treatment, and a judge's refusal to allow the phrase "affirmative action" to appear on the ballot description, may have confused many potential opponents. Its racial undertones were hidden in the little known fact that a major fi-

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Clinton 'work' STRATEGY

What... FIRST LADY... Mrs. Clinton...

A bolder FOREIGN REACT...

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Democrats celebrate four more years

Clinton vows to 'work together'

STRATEGY/The new aim is to be bipartisan, write Martin Walker and Jonathan Freedland

President Bill Clinton returned to a tumultuous state welcome at the White House yesterday after a reelection victory that was tinged with disappointment as final results showed he had fallen short of a majority mandate, winning just over 49 per cent of the popular vote.

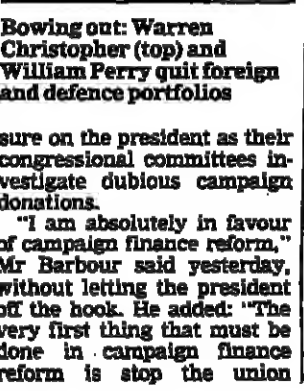


He also faced a Republican Congress rejoicing in the party's gain of two Senate seats, and its continued — although diminished — majority in the House.



Rowing out: Warren Christopher (top) and William Perry quit foreign and defence portfolios

Mr Clinton won a sweeping victory in the Electoral College, winning 378 votes to Bob Dole's 158, and carrying 31 states and the District of Columbia to Mr Dole's 18 states.



Mr Clinton actually won one less state than he carried four years ago, despite his victories in Florida and Arizona.

The president's victory was a partial if striking one, based on the lowest voter turnout (just over 49 per cent of eligible voters) in nearly 70 years.

bosses taking the money of their members and spending that dues money for political purposes.

Pursuing the theme of "Common Ground", Mr Clinton yesterday weighed the names of Republicans, from retired general Colin Powell to Senator Richard Lugar, to replace Warren Christopher as secretary of state.

There is also strong speculation that the retired Republican senator William Cohen of Maine, who writes thrillers in his spare time, is to be offered the job of director of the Central Intelligence Agency, once John Deutch replaces the defence secretary, William Perry.

Such bipartisan appointments have a long tradition. President John Kennedy appointed a Republican treasury secretary, Douglas Dillon, and President Nixon appointed a Democratic governor of Texas, John Connally, to the same post.

Other changes loomed at the White House, where the chief of staff, Leon Panetta, is retiring to make a run for California governor. The chief economic adviser, Laura Tyson, plans to return to academic and family life in California, while George Stephanopoulos is poised to resign as Mr Clinton's closest aide.

"The president wants to move relatively quickly, and in a bipartisan fashion, for his second administration," Mr Stephanopoulos told the Guardian yesterday. "The president has shown that he can work with a Republican Congress."

"So few presidents in history have had the opportunity he has of a second term. He recognises that, and he won't waste a moment. He is unburdened from the tension that is with you when you face an election every few years."

There are strong Democratic contenders for any vacated cabinet posts — including the former senators Sam Nunn of Georgia and George Mitchell of Maine. The United Nations ambassador, Madeleine Albright, is also in the running for the state department.

Mr Clinton will seek to avoid contentious issues, such as Medicare and pensions reform, by appointing a bipartisan presidential commission, which Mr Dole may be invited to lead.

Leader comment, page 8; Notebook, page 11



President Clinton hugs daughter Chelsea and wife Hillary as they watch a fireworks display during the election night rally in Little Rock

Little Rock rocks for favourite son

THE PARTY/But victory tasted sweeter first time round, writes Jonathan Freedland

FOR one night Little Rock was to be the biggest city in America. Swelling with pride, thousands of Arkansians had descended on the handful of streets that make up the heart of their state capital to drink, dance and celebrate a victory for their favourite son.

They came early, dressed in full Clinton-Gore regalia. "Bill Clinton, America's Choice," declared one T-shirt. "Victory!" rejoiced another. And, most optimistic of all: "Hillary is a Babe."

It looked like a carnival on Markham Street with banners of red, white and blue, a summery evening and enough beer and music to last the night.

The locals munched on Arkansas rope sausage hogies or the election day special, presidential pita pockets.

"Enjoy yourselves, look your best — remember the whole world is watching," said the announcer. For them, this was a chance to toast not just the first Arkansas president, but themselves.

"We've been ground up and spat out," said Henry Hodges, a Little Rock city councillor who is sick of four years under the media microscope.

Sending one of their own to Washington was meant to be a ride. Instead Whitewater and the other scandals have seen Arkansians ridiculed as America's most ethically-challenged people.

"We have a lot of battle scars," said Mr Hodges on his way to the hot food stalls. "Tonight we're healing."

But vindication lacks the charge of new victory. A mood of anti-climax hovered over the re-election party. Reunions are rarely as much fun as the first meeting, and the revelers of Little Rock were nostalgic for the time four years ago when all this was unknown.

What will they do with Hillary?

FIRST LADY/A public role for Mrs Clinton is still uncertain, argues Martin Walker

THE tableau was Christ-mas card perfect and impeccably staged for the TV cameras. President Clinton, looking dreamily up to the skies where the victory fireworks display exploded across the Arkansas night, held his wife and his daughter in his arms.

That was the new image of Hillary Rodham Clinton offered to the American public yesterday, the dutiful wife and good mother. And it stood in stark contrast to the stealth campaign she has relentlessly waged for her husband.

The TV cameras did not see much of her on the campaign trail, but she never stopped work as her husband's personal ambassador to the Democratic faithful. In October, Mrs Clinton was holding up to six meetings a day at carefully staged fundraisers and at rallies for invited guests of the National Organisation of Women, abortion rights groups, teachers' unions and state Democratic parties.

Her personal campaign was something of a job interview, an attempt to restore herself to public prominence after the humiliating defeat of her health reform plan in 1994.

The Clintons are planning to repeat the Hillary trick of Arkansas, 1983, when she took a year off from her law firm and spent it holding public meetings in every county in the state, an extraordinary consultation process on her husband's big reform of the state's education system.

Now Mr Clinton plans a second term in which education will be the big theme. There will be no obvious policy-making role for Hillary; that was the mistake of health care, when the public became edgy at the thought of a female co-president who had never been elected. Instead, she is tipped to take the public relations spotlight not just to sell the education reforms, but to go around the

country and listen, and build up a public way of support. The problem is that another kind of spotlight may already lie in store for Mrs Clinton. She has been summoned to testify before a grand jury set up by the Whitewater special counsel, Kenneth Starr, who served an unprecedented subpoena upon her.

As a whole, the fuss over the Whitewater controversy is ebbing. The voters did not seem over-concerned by it, and successive legal and congressional inquiries have failed to endorse the more sinister conspiracy theories about the death of the White

Her personal campaign was an attempt to restore herself to public prominence

House counsel Vince Foster. The original financial embarrassments of Arkansas have increasingly been overtaken by events inside the White House: whether Mrs Clinton sought to obstruct investigators by withholding Whitewater documents, and whether she misled federal officials when she denied any responsibility for the sacking of the White House travel office staff.

These raise the serious possibility that she could be indicted, if not for perjury, then for the lesser charges of making false statements or obstruction of justice. But since these events took place in Washington, she would in such a worst case face a local jury, drawn from a largely Black and overwhelmingly Democratic population.

Any conceivable trial would take place while Mrs Clinton was pursuing her new public role as the First Lady of education, building on the softer and more wholesome image she tried to adopt with the publication of her book It Takes a Village (To Raise a Child).

But Hillary remains, as she has been throughout the first term, the big problem of the Clinton presidency, too able and ambitious to settle into a purely cosmetic role, too controversial to be allowed back into that spotlight which she has so deftly destroyed her as the Whitewater mess coincided with the defeat of her health reform in 1994. That was the low point for her, made worse by a terrifyingly hostile reception at a public meeting in Seattle, and then by the murder of a doctor at an abortion clinic in Florida. She became haunted for a while by fears of assassination attempts.

A bolder actor on world stage

FOREIGN REACTION/Europe is hoping for signs of greater flexibility, writes Ian Black

EXPECTATIONS of an active global role await President Bill Clinton: from pursuing more balanced diplomacy in the Middle East, through peace-making in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, to finding a new United Nations secretary-general.

Governments across the world yesterday hailed his victory on grounds of continuity and stability, though many are hoping for a retreat from the unilateralism of Mr Clinton's first term. European Union members, including Britain, want to see a softer line from Washington on extra-territorial trade sanctions: the Helms-Burton Act on Cuba and parallel leg-

islation against Iran and Libya were both driven by domestic lobbies which had to be accommodated in a campaign year.

Iran struck a sour note, insisting the election result would mean the US would maintain its "interventionist and arrogant" policies. But Arab governments expressed hope for greater US involvement in the peace process with Israel.

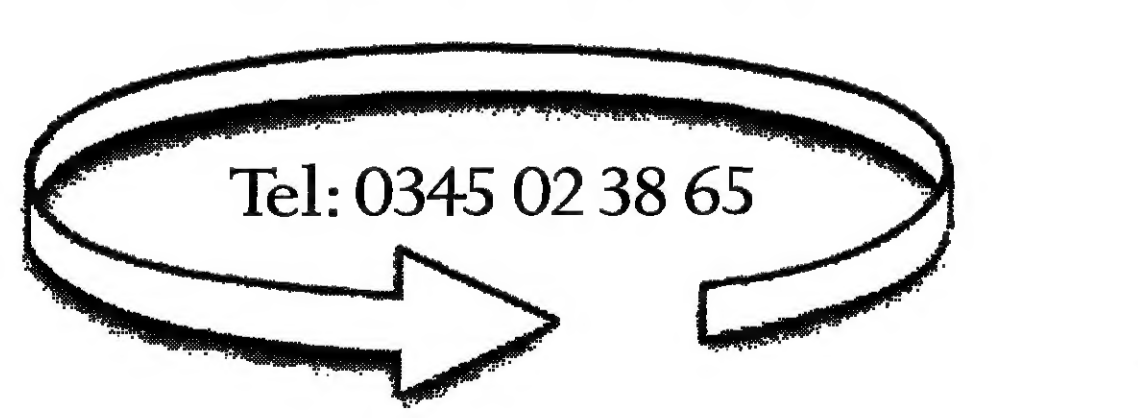
"Any president who is elected for a second term has more freedom of manoeuvre," said Marwan Muasher, Jordan's information minister. But the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, insisted: "The whole idea that

local crises and determined support for the engagement of Nato," said a Hungarian foreign ministry spokesman. But Mr Clinton's wings will be clipped by cuts in the funding of US diplomacy over the past few years and by the fact that the Republicans still control Congress.

David Sharrock adds from Belfast: Mr Clinton's re-election was warmly received in Ireland, where politicians of nearly all persuasions — including most Unionists — now believe his involvement in Ulster's peace process has been valuable.

Renewed US input — even if possible promotion for Senator George Mitchell means his forfeiture of the chairmanship of the political talks in Belfast — will strengthen Sinn Fein's case to its military wing, the IRA, that negotiation is the best way forward.

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A triumph for Clinton
But look who is not voting for the president

SO BILL CLINTON won nearly 50 per cent of the popular vote: a triumph for a president who in mid-term was being labelled a probable second time loser. But only the same percentage of all eligible citizens could be bothered to vote at all: a failure which had been predictable all along. Once again the election of the world's most powerful president in the world's greatest democracy falls a long way short of the ideal. The American people are judged by commentators to have endorsed continuity and the politics of the centre — hence the paradox of victory for a Democratic president while his party fails to win back the House or Senate. Yet the message which the American people actually delivered — those who bothered to vote — is a good deal more complex and negative. Opinion polls suggest that half of those who voted doubted the president's trustworthiness: fortunately for Mr Clinton a larger percentage had an unfavourable opinion of Speaker Newt Gingrich — the burden Mr Dole could never shed. Fortunately too, a majority said that issues matter more than a candidate's character. The decisive issue remained the economy where a majority believes that the country is moving in the right direction. Mr Clinton has also shown remarkable success in attracting a majority of women voters — by a greater margin than his opponent gained the majority of men voters. (The age factor may have been the equivalent for Mr Dole of Richard Nixon's stubble factor.) Another poll statistic should also prompt reflection. Half of Mr Clinton's supporters are said to have emerged from the voting booth with second thoughts about the president. How fortunate again that a greater percentage had similar misgivings after voting for Bob Dole! In a campaign where both contestants manoeuvred for the middle ground, Mr

Clinton has had a clear advantage all along. He has been less encumbered by his "liberal" wing than Mr Dole has been by his right wing by shifting to the centre in the second half of his term. Mr Clinton was already in occupation. It has been a largely policy-free campaign which leaves political analysts grasping for clues as to what Mr Clinton will actually do in his second term. The White House is trying to fill the gap with predictions that he will leave behind a substantial "legacy". This remains less the language of policy substance than of presidential image, which may also become vulnerable to more negative interpretations as the Republicans renew their attack upon his character. It is of course possible to take a more comfortable view both of Mr Clinton's policy deficit and of the poor turnout which has returned him to office. The drift towards the centre, it may be argued, is a desirable phenomenon in a less polarised world and voter apathy is a price worth paying for it. From a foreign perspective it may also be suggested that Mr Clinton's avoidance of radical policies at home should leave him with more incentive to seek radical solutions to problems abroad — such as the Middle East and Northern Ireland. But American society is hardly in such good shape that it can be left to coast along, and the low turnout also points up its own social problems. Not only is the 49 per cent of eligible citizens who voted the lowest for decades: it has happened in spite of 11 million new voters being registered through "motor voting" and similar procedures to make registration easier. Special efforts had been made to recruit the young, the poor and the black, yet they remain the categories least likely to vote, and the most vulnerable in society. Should this not be the real challenge for those building bridges to a new century?

Now, just let the children learn
Ridings school has made a good start: the pupils are crucial

RARELY have so many been blamed for the decline of a school. Rarer still — and the one heartening element in the sorry story — is the readiness of almost all guilty parties to accept some responsibility for the slide of the Ridings school into anarchy. Yesterday's report from the school inspectors exposes the full horror of the Halifax school: the pupils' low attainment; chronic truancy, and widespread disruption; rivalry and factionalism among the teachers; and management failures by the headteacher, school governors and local education authority. Yet, as the BBC Panorama programme on Monday demonstrated, teachers, the headteacher, school governors and the local education director are all ready to concede fault. Yet one party has not been ready to accept any responsibility: Education Secretary Gillian Shephard. Of course she cannot be blamed for the many mistakes made at local level: the unclear rules, uneven application, inconsistent disciplinary decisions, poor teaching, inadequate support and lack of a proper strategic plan or monitoring system. Nor was she directly responsible for the rejection of the local council's bid for a single regeneration grant: it would have given the dilapidated school a share of the £2.5 million earmarked for education. But the party policies which led to Ridings are not only endorsed, though admittedly reluctantly, by Mrs Shephard but enshrined in her current Education Bill. A conscientious education secretary would now

concede her Bill must be seriously revised. Ridings is the exception which, if Tory policies are enacted, would become the rule: it would mean the restoration of a hierarchy of schools — grammar, selective, partly selective, grant maintained and, at the bottom, a local education authority comprehensive mopping up the rest. Some 75 per cent of children at Ridings were below average ability. About 25 per cent had special needs. There are other schools with such handicaps who do better, but the challenge facing Ridings compared with its selective and comfortable neighbours is stark. Can Ridings be rescued? Even with five inspectors inside last week the teachers lost control. How do you lift yourself up from the bottom of a local league of 17 secondary schools when the attainment gap is so large? Just one per cent at Ridings obtained five GCSE passes between A and C in 1995. The national average is 44 per cent and the district average 37 per cent. One local school achieved 91 per cent. The challenge is daunting but all sides are right to try: 600 children cannot be written off. A good start has been made: the appointment of a new and successful local head, the teachers' strike threat lifted, a decisive move on discipline before the doors were reopened. It is too early to make predictions. But even in the old anarchy, good teaching was discovered. The pupils remain crucial. That's why their "Yobs Out — We Want To Learn" rally was so important.

Lauding the new role models
And they were much closer to home than anyone thought

WHO SAYS family values are dying? Today's Guardian ICM poll shows that 88 per cent of respondents say that their own parents demonstrate the moral values they would wish everyone else to follow. This will come as a surprise to many of the parents involved who may have no idea of the benevolent effect they have had on their children. Parents were in a class of their own coming 10 percentage points ahead of the next categories — teachers, doctors and police officers. Of course this poll tells us nothing about the actual moral values of the parents — merely that whatever they are, they appear to be passed on to the children. Maybe it's just in the genes. It is possible that the offspring of criminals or nutjobs will automatically identify with the morality, or lack of it, of their own parents since that's all they have to go by. It is equally possible that the Duchess of York's children regard her as a moral

role model. Which is just as well because the royal family as a whole — doubtless because of the moral soap opera they have become — have sunk to a level where only 30 per cent of people regard them as moral leaders — less than trade union leaders (37 per cent) and business leaders (41 per cent). If there is a moral, it is that society may be too pessimistic about the difficulty of reversing the decline in discipline in some of our schools. The fact that one's own parents and teachers are the biggest role models suggests that if the two could only work more closely together — without each trying to off-load responsibility onto the other — then a kind of moral synergy might result. Otherwise, as a newspaper, we can only say thank goodness for pop stars. Without them journalists would have been bottom of the pile instead of only second to bottom. No one is incapable of improvement.



Letters to the Editor
Boys behaving badly

SO why should boys be sliding towards primitivism so much faster than girls? (The boys with the wrong stuff, November 6)? The answer is really not too difficult to locate. Boys have since the mid-1970s grown up in a society where their urge to work and provide, to win respect from their communities, to father and rear their children in loving families, has been undermined by mass unemployment, the weakening of the trade-union movement and the paucity of much of the work that does exist for working-class men. If there is no future to strive for, then the best option is to plunge headlong into the now and its immediate pleasures: including the misuse of drugs and the gaining of peer respect and fear through criminal activities. The very few contemporary role models that exist for boys reflect this inarticulate hedonistic resignation: the Gallagher brothers, Train-spotting, certain "football-lad" comedians, Shaun Ryder, Loaded magazine and gansta rap. This is the generation that thought nothing, did nothing, believed nothing, and who can blame them? Dave Wibberley, 3 Smyrna Mansions, Smyrna Road, London NW8 4LU.

US and many parts of Europe. We are still struggling to understand why this has occurred. Commonly mentioned are: ● The feminisation of schooling; ● The feeling that "real men don't read"; ● Lack of motivation for boys who see their fathers unemployed or don't see them at all; ● Our failure to redefine masculinity in post-feminist terms. (Dr) Peter West, Senior Lecturer in Education, University of Western Sydney, c/o Hinchbrook School, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

WOMEN take the blame for everything, I know, but I really don't think that we can blame feminism for turning boys into lads. The cause is much closer to home and much simpler. The sudden explosion of New Lad culture on to television means that not only is it okay to be a yob, it's funny. Shows like Men Behaving Badly, They Think It's All Over, Fantasy Football, Chris Evans in The Big Breakfast and then on Radio 1 all proclaim loud and clear that faring and drinking lager are enviable social assets. Women only succeed when they imitate bokes — like Beck and all the women police officers in all the never-ending cop shows. Boys don't get their role

models from school or home. They get them from the box and their mates. Don Webb, 140 Bishops Mansions, Bishops Park Road, London SW6 8DX. WOULD Yvonne Roberts (Ox) upon foreign time, November 4) count Paul Barker's excellent reminder that children thrive best with two parents (For the children's sake, November 4) as yet another reactionary plea to restrict these earnings and family? Most of the hundreds of thousands of children of split families still have two parents even though they are labelled as "single parent" by the adult world. Barker's is one of several recent attempts to acknowledge the scale of abuse this cause separation represents, and to reform the legal process which still fosters exclusive possession of children by one parent. Some MPs worked hard this year to include in the new Family Law Act clauses about the child maintaining a relationship with both parents — something the much vaunted Children Act does not state. The next stage is to redirect the millions going into the divorce process into practical support for children and parents — including the resource-starved Contact Centre for split families. Jeremy Andrew, CES Limited, 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SN.

DAVID Shaw's proposed Amendment to the Education Bill is flawed (MP aims to root out teacher "scruffs", November 4). He says that teachers should "dress as professionals only that way will they get the respect of children of parents, and of the public." Is the MP suggesting that to be "professional", teachers should wear suits and proposition prominent local businessmen to be paid to ask their pupils questions? Will they then fail to disclose these earnings and go on free holidays at the expense of local hotel-owners? Or does the MP for Dover consider the behaviour of his colleagues such as Neil Hamilton to be unprofessional? Moral standards in society are set from the top. While we have members of the royal family jumping in and out of various beds, the clergy involved in child abuse, MPs taking bribes, and our Government selling weapons to odious dictators while lying to Parliament about it, the rest of society will have a tough time choosing which moral path to follow. Paul Dearing, 72a Wilton Road, London N10.

HOW will the Tories, who I don't know a combat knife from a handsaw, be able to agree a definition of the "smart clothes" that teachers are to be made to wear? Still, at least I and my colleagues, who habitually wear suits in the classroom, will be able to charge our tailors' bills to the taxman. I hope the resultant increase in public expenditure has been costed. M A Cobby, 78 Dryden Crescent, Stevenage, Herts SG2 0JH. OF course David Shaw is right: if teachers want to be treated like professionals, they should dress like professionals. But in order to dress like professionals, they have to be paid like professionals. G Hill, 84 Park Avenue, Bushey, Herts WD2 2BB.

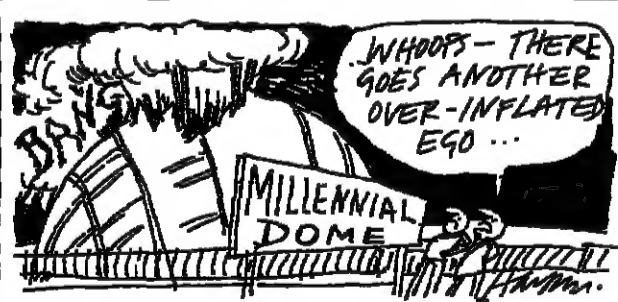
However you dress it up, David Shaw has lost the teachers' vote

AS A supply teacher in various secondary schools I am well aware of the importance of appearances, and always take care to dress smartly (Letters, November 5). The different schools visit demand different clothes; what is just right for

one may be too formal, or informal, for another. The vast majority of teachers I know dress smartly and appropriately for the job. The call for a dress code is yet another example of a Tory MP trying to discredit the teaching profession and distract attention from the main issues. Due to the closure of special units for disruptive pupils, a small minority of hard-core disruptors have to be paid to keep in mainstream schools where they take up a disproportionate amount of staff time and energy. Anna Alberda Ellis, 4 Josephine Road, Huddersfield HD4 5UD.

Show the door

PATRICIA Harman's plastic door (Report, November 6) is one in the eye for the culture vultures from English Heritage. How considerate of them to be sorry for the distress caused to Mrs Harman by their own arrogant refusal to accept the appeal inspector's decision. In 100 years' time when someone may wish to change this plastic door back to wood, no doubt English Heritage will argue that plastic is the bee's knees. Roderick Bridge, Ash Cottage, Northfield Lane, Hainley, Oxon OX8 5UU. IN 1982, on hearing that I was one of the first Oxford University lecturers in management studies (Dons reject £20m said gift, November 6), my dinner-party host said: "Management isn't that what they teach at polytechnics?" (Prof) John Forcell, Human Resource Management, Bath University, 55 Middle Way, Oxford OX2 7LE.



Millennial monument to waste

WHAT a wonderful dome, what a brilliant architect, what a marvellous concept... what a complete and utter waste of money (World's biggest dome marks millennium, November 1). I do not understand how any government, be it local or otherwise, can allow \$800 million to be spent on a building which has no real function and will be standing empty in a year's time. Would this money not be better spent on hospitals, schools or the homeless?

I realise that the money is not coming from the Government, but if these sorts of funds are available for this useless monstrosity which will do nothing more than boost the ego of the architect, then surely we can convince those people in the private sector, and wherever else the money is coming from, to invest it in the social welfare of the country? Dennis Carlyle, 3 Westfield Avenue, Beverley HU17 7HA.

About your new pledges, Mr Birt

THE BBC must now go cap in hand to Rupert Murdoch for permission to use his "Set Top Box" if it is to participate in digital broadcasting (Who will stop Rupert, November 4). Why? Michael Checkland and his Board of Directors decided that engineering was of little value in an organisation like the BBC. Overnight, and without consultation, they ordered savage cuts in engineering research and design. Today the BBC Engineering Division no longer exists. The corporation now finds itself being overtaken by new technology instead of driving it forward as was the case in the past. Had this not taken place, the BBC could have been into digital transmission five years ago, well ahead of Rupert Murdoch. David Sazari, (Former BBC engineer,) 6 Beltinge Road, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex RM3 0UJ.

IN the past, the BBC has covered US elections by simply picking up the election-night programme produced by one of the US networks. This was informative, interesting and (presumably) cheap. What we had on Tuesday night was simply a shambles. The sound was unbelievably bad and the numerous technical hitches laughable. The first "representative" audience did not contain a single black face. Most irritatingly of all, the programme was woefully short on information about what was happening in the elections — the virtual absence of voting figures and the lack of detail on Senate and House elections was not compensated for by the ally and uninformative computer graphics. Someone should surely be hauled over the coals. David Denver, 41 Belle Vue Terrace, Lancaster.

That ticking pensions bomb

AS THINGS stand, no EU citizen who has moved about from one member state to another (How to defuse the pensions bomb, November 4) will receive a full pension, even though he/she will probably have been contributing continuously according to the different requirements of each state in which he/she has worked. Indeed, if someone moves about a lot, it is entirely possible that he/she will not get any pension at all, anywhere. There is a general tendency to say it is impossible to sort this out because the problem is "very complicated"; yet many no less complex EU harmonisation problems have been resolved with alacrity. When it is a case of finding ways to pay out funds held in trust for those who provided them, there seems no end to the ability of member states to frustrate things for as long as possible. This is why people such as Dick Taverne like to refer melodramatically to pension

the money was made. But then he had the cheek to reveal that he was in full possession of the City's wise judgment on those that using the profit to make further profit in fact enables the wealth to trickle down to the poor. Of course. What simplicity and clarity. Away with guff: all my pension payments have been trickling down to the poor. How fortunate that I am now one of them. Colin Crouch, 2 Fernhurst Gardens, Aldwick, Bognor Regis, Sussex PO21 4AZ. DICK TAVERNE suggests that we do not have to raise our taxes to pay for pensions. He advocates reduction of benefits and national pension rights. May I suggest that he absolve the taxpayer from contributing to his substantial attendance allowance as a member of the House of Lords? No doubt his index-linked Commons pension will tide him over comfortably. Rosalie Walker, 29 Cherrington Road, Bristol BS10 5BJ.

A Country Diary

ROSS-SHIRE: In wildlife terms it is easy to make a mistake and the recent publication of a book on golden eagles reminded me of such an event on a hill not too far from Inverness. I was taking part in a selective survey of eagle territories and it was a long but satisfying walk into the cliff face. I soon found the eyrie and I wrote down the first notebook that the nest had not been lined so the eagles had not nested that particular year. I then decided to walk up round the cliff and it was then that I found another suitable looking site by — needless to say — a rowan tree. There on a wide ledge was another eyrie but this time it had been lined and even a cup for the eggs had been formed but there was no sign of any eggs or, for that matter, any adult eagles. Out came the notebook in which I wrote that the eagles had formed a complete nest including the egg cup but for some reason had not laid and the territory was deserted. I then scrambled up to

the top of the cliff where I sat on a flat area covered with quite tall heather. I made a few more notes but then my concentration was broken by a call note. It was apparent that it was from a nesting and my first thought was a golden eagle chick. Then I dismissed the idea as an empty, golden eagle's nest was just below me and the sound seemed very close. I searched everywhere and then suddenly there in the heather on flat ground was a nest scrape with a golden eagle chick. I made a mental note to write down later that this was a new hastily constructed nest as the eagles had been disturbed at the other nest below and this chick was probably from a second clutch. I stepped backwards from the nest and tripped over something in the heather and there was the remains of a photographer's hide from the year before. As far as the three eyries were concerned I had made mistakes on all of them. RAY COLLIER

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

Diary

Dan Atkinson

JUST as Sir James Goldsmith's image as a man who loves the smell of sealing-wax in the morning was starting to fade, the boss of the Euroceptors' Inner Station has reached for the wigs once more. True, the latest target of Sir James's wit-totting (being a Euro-MP) is already guilty of the substantive charge (being a Euro-MP), whatever the rights and wrongs of the de-famovine issue. And "Kurtz" Goldsmith has spared the platform for the alleged libel — impoverished Labour periodical Tribune — a litigious blast of its own ("he seems to have taken pity on us," said editor Mark Seddon). Nevertheless, hitting Labour MEP Glyn Ford for asserting (alleged) disrepute a fortnight back may not give his (alleged) party the cuddly public face it (allegedly) seeks. Allegedly.

MANWHILE, Editor Seddon and his comrades at Gray's Inn Road have their hands full digging into Tony Blair's manifesto "triumph". Not only are growing Tribunes tribulish enough to point out that the telephone-canvassing exercise to get out the vote during the last 10 days of the ballot would have been laughed out of court had it been undertaken by a trade union seeking strike approval, but they have the bad taste to note that the last-minute mail-out urging electors to vote was so targeted as to leave abstainers identifiable to those running the ballot. Any abstainer seeking high Labour office in the future could be in trouble. Seddon is unbothered: "I'm safe because I voted No."

AND on to that other ballot. Brother Yank, already doubtless groggy with the morning-after "what have I done?" feeling so familiar to consorts of his re-elected president, may have cheered himself yesterday with the crossword in the New York Times. The clue to both 39 and 43 across read "lead story in tomorrow's newspaper"; 39 across was seven letters, as was 43 across. At press time there was no way of knowing whether "Clinton" or "Bob Dole" were the correct answer to 39 across, although "elected" would fit snugly into 43 across whatever the political weather. The compiler accounted for this in setting the "down" clues; certain vertical letters would fit Clinton, others Dole, thus frustrating the presidential preferences of the reader (assuming these did not coincide with his "down" answers). Very much a witty rearguard action by Old Media after a contest dominated by the New. The CNN-Time Internet site "Allpollitics" registered 50 million "hits" on election day, against a puny 18 million during the bombing of Iraq earlier this year; election '96 has, we hear, "confirmed" the rise of the Net just as election '90 confirmed the position of television. On second thoughts, perhaps our cousins ought to forget the crossword and crawl back into bed.

HAVING said which, steam-TV still offers the American people a laugh or two. British productions such as Cracker and Inspector Morse are big hits across the pond, as is Prime Suspect, the latest episode of which has raised an unintentional smile or two in the colonies. As audiences in Blighty thrilled to the gritty, grimy, brutalist realism of Helen Mirren's latest adventure, American audiences, we hear, chuckled at the wonderful Englishness of the scene in which a villain kidnaps a child off the pavement, throws him in the boot of the car and then takes care to indicate before driving off.

LAST word on that Labour-manor election victory. You may remember Tony Blair's crack at the end of his victory speech in April 1995 after the vote to ditch Clause IV. The party's name? A pause, then he declared that it stays the same. Come Monday, and the preacher-man interpreted the mandate to thus: "Our mandate to stand as New Labour and to govern as New Labour". Don't ever change.



Feel-terrible factor will do for the Tories

Commentary Hugo Young

THE leader who should get the greatest kick out of Mr Clinton's victory is, without question, John Major. It's a vindication of everything Major believes about elections in general, and the 1997 election in particular. It shows that merit will out, however reluctant the people once were to reward it, as they were in Clinton's case a year ago. Fortune will favour the leader who runs an honest economy, and supplies the wherewithal to make the voters, when they're awakened to the choice, feel good. It's a message that should strike terror into the hearts of Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

This cogent lesson is reinforced by other factors. Not only is inflation low, unemployment down and the basis for future growth quite solid, but these pervasive truths wipe out several inconveniences. In particular, they transcend the chronic impopularity of politicians. There is just as much alienation

from politics in America as there is here, and in the case of the President, the character problems should surely have converted this into insurmountable hostility. Whereas Major has recovered plus the character-vote, Clinton lacks the latter — yet he wins a decisive victory. There could be no clearer proof that it really is the economy, stupid. In an age of public cynicism, when voters have ever lower hopes of politicians, there is nothing else for it to be.

The evidence has emerged, moreover, at a time when ideology has all but disappeared as the test of a governing politician. The differences that divide Major and Clinton are much less obviously crucial than the incumbency they have shared at the right moment in the economic cycle. Mr Blair's adviser, Philip Gould, wrote on this page yesterday as if the "incumbency" explanation was a right-wing calumny. I entirely disagree.

The case is not about mere incumbency but successful incumbency, and on the ground which Clinton placed the centre of his record, Major's record is not markedly less successful than his. The Tory party, on this central ground, is a mainstream party, not divided against itself, and in terms of policy would not be spending so much more time reassuring conservative voters than ex-

pecting progressive ones. So Blair, I think, doesn't explain the coming débâcle. The 17 years of Tory rule are closer to the point. Clinton, by comparison with the British Tories, remains a novice incumbent. Though sledge may stale him, custom doesn't. Borsford was no excuse for a swing voter in Ohio to reject the economic confidence he has engendered.

For the Tories, every passing year increases the burden on them to prove they deserve another term. The longer they stay, the more our tolerance is strained. Yet not necessarily to breaking point. With the economy looking good for the foreseeable future, each passing year of Labour's inexperience adds a premium to the risk the party is inviting the voters to take. It should be quite a seductive argument.

But it won't be. And my theory is that it has to do with geography as much as history, with personality as much as policy. Somehow these elements will combine to withhold from the British incumbent the sweeping sympathy with the voters that enabled Clinton to rise above trouble and persuade enough of them to address the large, simple thing that really mattered.

BRITAIN is a small country about which we know everything. Nothing moves without an entire people hearing about it. One smirking delinquent boy in Nottingham can dominate the news from Lands End to John O'Groats, consume the time of parliament, call up the moralising passion of nine national newspapers, insert himself into daily conversation. In this tiny, over-knowledgeable place, there soon becomes nothing that is not political, nothing therefore in which central government and its spokesmen are not em-

ployed. They may say they can't do much, but they don't try very hard to be silent. From TV taste to lottery winnings, from Dubliner Primary to the Ridings School, everything becomes a national issue: a challenge, therefore, to government, a stain on government's record, to be laid upon it whenever the House of Commons gets together.

This may have some virtues, but what it doesn't assist is a sense of perspective. What's lacking in British life is distance. In Britain, we score politicians but want them to solve every problem in Oklahoma, they score politicians too. But they never know what's been happening in Illinois, and all they ask these days is for a general confidence that their wallets will be filled, and that the future is as safe as can reasonably be expected. If they feel good about that, everything else, including personal and public morality, seems to be extraneous.

Clinton made them feel that way. That's his surpassing quality. His warmth and spontaneous optimism is feel-good personified. He delivers the oratory of a happy man. He makes the most of the story of his domestic duties, and Major, by contrast, does not seem happy. He can't escape the minutiae. He can't find distance.

Have to go, darling, work calls



Rachel Cusk

THE news that the Government is finally to put a value on housework will doubtless please both those who do it and those who depend on other unpaid housewives and other unpaid workers. This fact can apparently be worn as a badge of honour. For those men whose wives complain that their domestic duties stood in the way of their having a career, it will provide a clever riposte.

So now that housework is such a high-status occupation, does that mean that men will want to do it? We can at least anticipate with some certainty a further rise in the already substantial number of men who say they do it. More interesting will be to see whether childcare is elected to fall within this newly minted job description, and have a price put on its head.

The National Child Development Survey, which earlier this week revealed that men are working longer hours and seeing less of their children than ever, is by no means the first to point out the growing gap between our perception of fathers as more caring and involved, and the somewhat absent reality. Harriet Harman, Patricia Hewitt and Anna Coote's important 1990 study, The Family Way (Institute for Public Policy Research), made similar findings; and earlier this year, another IFFR study found that one in three fathers — as opposed to the one in four cited by the National Child Development Survey — was working more than 50 hours a week, not including time spent travelling to and from work. Furthermore, the majority of men also work during evenings and weekends.

Among families where this is the case even the most rudimentary family occasions — such as dinner — are dispensed with. Let this vision should seem painful, with fathers working all the hours God sends to put food they don't eat on a table at which they rarely sit, it would appear that men in the professional classes, and particularly those whose wives are at home full-time, are the worst offenders. Indeed, fathers' responsibility for and involvement with their children corresponds with alarming accuracy to the number of hours worked by the mother: those men whose partners worked full-time shared childcare responsibilities the most.

Interesting as this might be, it has more than a whiff of P. PROMOTING the status of "unpaid work" at home should provide an added inducement for men who have difficulties with time that doesn't have a meter running on it, although what seems more likely is that such an acknowledgement will prove to be merely that, rendering "official" what women have long since claimed: that they do two jobs, one at the office and the other when they get home.

It is hopeless to imagine that outside forces, no matter what the cultural imperative, will ever make it easier for men to amputate their working day with dignity. There are countless careers in which by doing so a man would seriously impair his chances of being successful. As a society we find it difficult to make sacrifices; but some sacrifices are apparently harder to make than others. Why it should be easier to sacrifice the private world of the family than the public world of work is a question only men can answer.



Labour laughs off reports of Blair's new, female-friendly image. But unless he brings more women into his team, it could be Major who laughs last, argues Richard Thomas

Blair's bad hair day

THE PENNY has finally dropped in Labour HQ: Tony Blair has women troubles. But they go much deeper than his hair, smoothed down or not. Female voters remain deeply suspicious of Blair and may yet deliver another victory to the Conservatives, led by a female-friendly John Major.

For Labour strategists watching American women sending Bill Clinton back to the White House, Blair's fall to connect with women is bad news indeed. Contrary to the high hopes expressed when he was elected leader, Blair is proving less appealing to female than male voters. Today's Guardian poll shows 36 per cent of women intending to vote Conservative, against 39 per cent of men. Among the numerous over-35s, the Tories have 1,000,000 more female votes than Labour.

Just as the feminisation of US politics sealed Bob Dole's fate, so a failure to close the gender gap could stop Blair in his tracks. Forty-seven per cent of men intend to vote Labour, compared to 46 per cent of women. At first sight the gap looks small, but a number of other factors magnify the gender gap: there are more women voters than men; they are more likely to turn up to the polling booth; and a much higher proportion are still reserving their judgment, especially those in marginal seats. One in four women have not decided how to cast their vote. In 1992, 16 per cent of women decided in the last two weeks.

Hence the deployment of Labour's ultimate weapon — focus groups. Blair's inner cabinet are scratching their heads over women's views. He seems, after all, to have it all. He is a clean-cut, conservative, family man. And the Kennedyesque good looks are supposed to be a honey-pot for female voters. Remember all those articles describing him as the perfect son-in-law? He should be a smash hit among the 55+ group of women. In fact, most women fall to go weak at the knees at the

sight of Tony's smile. It is men who think he is attractive to women, not women. He is certainly no Jack Kennedy. And even his solid traditional values on the family, marriage, children and religion — which should be playing well, particularly with older women — are ringing hollow to many of them.

In the past, Labour men have often blamed women: pollsters gloomily to statistics showing that, if only women

who has read his Etzioni. Women rightly see it as waffle. And, as well as the subject matter, his style of speech is often exclusive of women.

The Fawcett Society will next week rank Blair in last place of the three party leaders in terms of the gender-friendliness of their conference speeches. Thirty-eight men — including Hitler — were given a mention, against seven women. Even Old Testament prophets featured.

ONE of the results of this is that Labour tends to ghettoise women's issues — women are interested in childcare, health and education. (Although one senior Labour man once managed to speak at a conference fringe meeting on childcare, without once mentioning childcare.)

Economics, particularly, is seen as a boys' issue. This is not surprising, for the US Democrats realised that women are just as interested in economics as men, so long as it is not dressed up as quasi-science. Talk about wages, mortgages and jobs, and women are just as interested as men.

The minimum wage, for example, is a woman's issue — not just because women make up most of the low-paid, but because one of the reasons they are low-paid is precisely the fact that they are women, and all the discrimination that entails. Yet to most observers it looks like a male trade-union issue.

Macho economics, of the "endogenous growth theory" sort, is rightly dismissed. Of course, that linguistic gem was the work of Gordon Brown, rather than Blair — but Brown shares many of his faults. And between them, the Brown-Blair offices amount to the central axis of power in the party.

Both office staffs are almost entirely Boys' Own operations. Very talented boys, admittedly — but boys nonetheless. Blair has one woman researcher, and she is the most trusted of his informal advisory group, drawn from outside Westminster, has only one woman. Neither Brown nor Blair has a woman in his inner circle. And it shows, as the Fawcett analysis demonstrates.

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Tommy Lawton

Head first for club and country

TOMMY Lawton, who has died aged 77, has long been regarded as one of the finest centre-forwards to have played for England, scoring 23 goals in 33 games.

On March 28, 1936, aged only 18, Lawton made his League debut for Burnley in the Second Division against Doncaster Rovers. It was a draw. In his second game, at Swansea, he scored twice, the first with one of those typical, towering headers. It used to be said of Lawton, and there has even been scientific evidence to suggest it was more than legend, that he could actually hang in the air before a header.

Working hard under Ben-Lawton, like Nat Lofthouse after him, was born in Bolton and attended Castle Hill School. If Lofthouse was playing wartime football for Bolton at 15, Lawton was leading the Burnley attack in the Football League at 16.

Why didn't he join Bolton Wanderers? He was, after all, the outstanding schoolboy footballer in the town, even if he never won a schoolboy cap for England.

Walter Rowley, then Bolton's coach, did try to sign him as an amateur, after a spell when he had trained for nights a week at Burnley Park. But their concurrent offers, of ten shillings a week for a clerk's job, or seven and six as a butcher's roundsman, were unattractive.

Advised by his grandfather and a former schoolmaster, W.H. Horrocks, Lawton showed a penchant for Anfield, where he'd been applauded in schoolboy games, and Liverpool. But Liverpool, though interested, failed to come up with a part-time job, Bury, when approached, did, and he both to watch him at Sheffield Wednesday were ruled out when Lawton's mother didn't want him to leave home, and Burnley became the lucky club.

In May, 1935, the 15-year-old Lawton, with his mother and his grandfather, moved to Burnley. He was coached by a hard taskmaster in Ray Benion, who made him endlessly practise his shooting and his heading, running round the field to pivot and

strike all the Bs in the advertisement BURNLEY'S BEER IS BEST.

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The scientific evidence suggested it was more than legend - that he could actually hang in the air before a header



ment he saw Lawton, "you've come here to take my place. Anything I can do for you, I will." *Rara avis* Lawton's debut for Everton came quickly but it was well augured one, even if he did score from a penalty in his team's 6-2 defeat. His direct opponent was a future colleague in so many England teams: the elegant Wolves centre-half, Stanley Cullis.

Lawton was in and out of Everton's team that first season, though he did play and score in a memorable Cup replay in the fifth round at Tottenham, Spurs winning 4-3 after being 3-2 down. He had played inside-right to Dixie Dean.

After two initial defeats at the start of season 1937/8, Lawton replaced Dean, definitively. It was an indifferent season for Everton, but they began the following one with six wins in a row and went on

convincingly to win the championship. Lawton scored no fewer than 23 goals for Everton in the 1937/8 championship. In 1938/9, his last First Division season for the club, he scored another 24 League goals in 38 games.

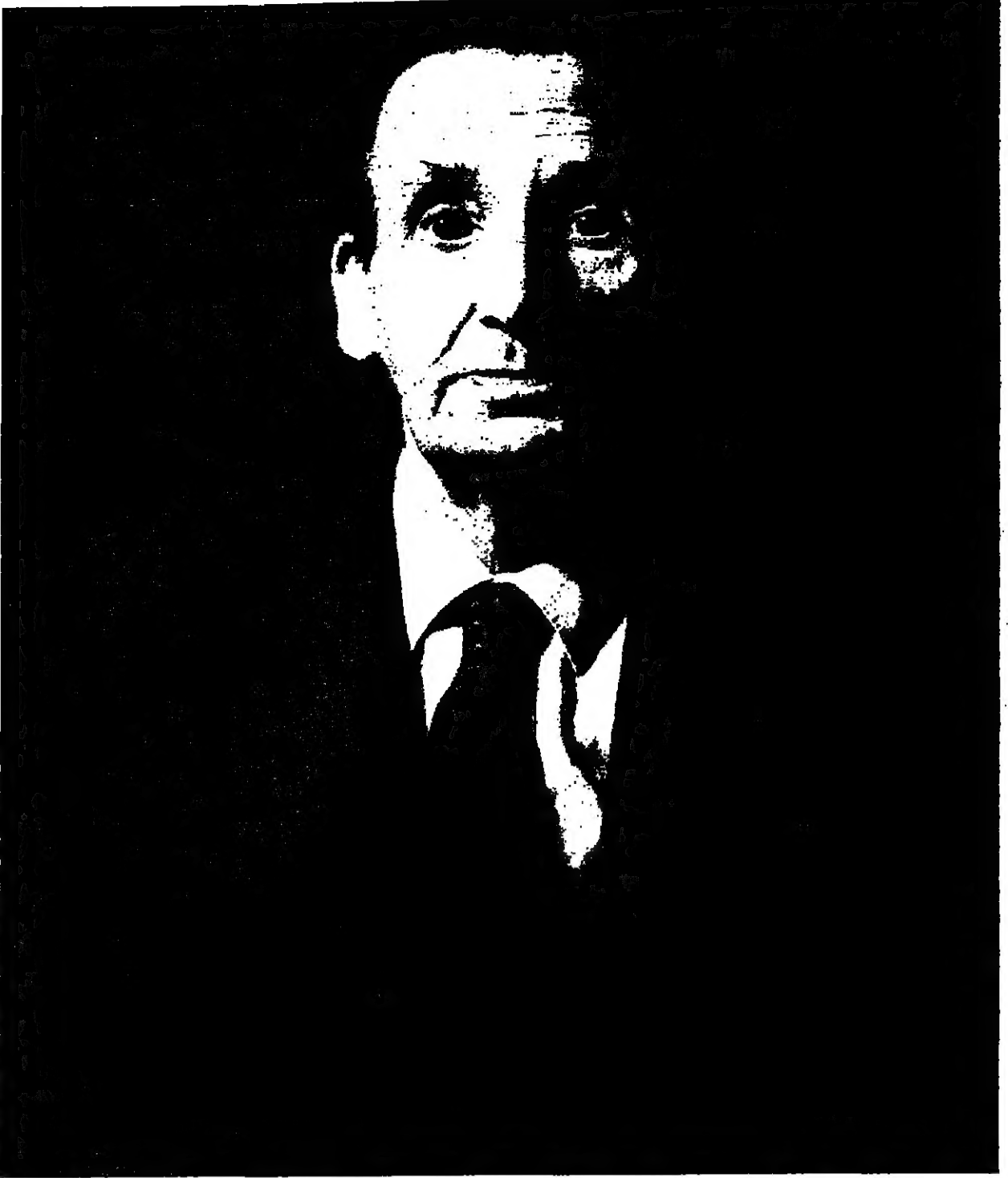
He won his first cap for England as a 19-year-old at Cardiff against Wales in October, 1938. Lawton did score from a penalty, but England were beaten 4-2. Lawton stayed in the England team, scoring at High Wycombe in a 3-0 win against the Rest of Europe, when the Uruguayan centre half Andreolo spat, to Lawton's disgust, at the referee, and above all, getting the winner against Scotland at Hampden the following April. Those, then, were the Blue Riband games, and Lawton's header from Stanley Matthews's characteristic cross, made it 2-1 for England.

When war came Lawton, like so many British professional footballers, was allocated to the Army Physical Training Corps at Aldershot. There he played as a guest for the little local club, which was able to deploy a galaxy of stars such as Cullis and Lawton's two Everton colleagues, the England wing-halves Cliff Britton and Joe Mercer.

War-time international games were not officially recognised, which was ironic when England had such a spectacular team. Scotland were beaten time and again, not least in 1943 by an 8-0 margin at Maine Road, Manchester. Lawton scoring four of those goals. Lawton did not stay with Everton, then a club frequently at odds with its stars. A dispute led to Lawton being the subject of a surprise transfer to Chelsea in the autumn of 1946, for what was then the huge sum of £11,500.

Almost at once he found himself leading the attack, and scoring, in a remarkable 3-3 draw at Stamford Bridge against the legendary Moscow Dynamo touring side. When first class football resumed, Lawton scored 26 First Division goals for Chelsea in only 34 games. He continued to play for England, and scored twice for Britain versus Europe. But he was still a restless figure and demanded a transfer, to general astonishment he moved to Third Division Notts County, for a new record fee of £20,000.

Meanwhile he had scored four times the previous May in a sensational 10-0 win against Portugal in Lisbon,



Tommy Lawton... his declining years produced a pitiful anticlimax to a remarkable career

and he would score one of England's goals in a notable 4-0 win over Italy in Turin in May, 1948.

Scoring freely, Lawton started with Notts County until the 1951/2 season, taking them up to Division Two in 1949/50 with 31 goals in 37 games. He left Nottingham, where he'd been involved with a firm selling typewriters, to become player

manager of Brentford in Division Two. Two seasons later he was brought back to the First Division by Arsenal, where he made 35 appearances for 13 goals.

For a while he was player manager of the non-League club Kettering. Next he went back to manage Notts County, nurturing the early careers of two promising young centre forwards in Tony Hateley and

Jeff Astle. But management was never really his forte, and his subsequent years in Nottingham were star-crossed ones, though he did, eventually, write with some success for the local paper.

Brian Glanville

Tommy Lawton, footballer, born October 5, 1919; died November 6, 1996

manager of Brentford in Division Two. Two seasons later he was brought back to the First Division by Arsenal, where he made 35 appearances for 13 goals.

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Rohan Butler

European history from the inside looking out

IN A PROFESSION increasingly characterised by narrow specialisation, Rohan Butler, who has died aged 79, represented a different kind of historian, one whose work was not confined within a narrow chronological range or focused upon the internal history of a single state. The variety of his historical interests stretched from the political culture of 18th-century Europe to the structure of 20th-century diplomacy and character of European liberalism.

His own role in the major events of mid-20th-century European history gave him an indelible sense of the relevance of the past to the preoccupations of present-day debates. His aim was to write history "from the inside" as he put it, to understand historical events and decisions through the mental and cultural world of the protagonists, however complex and dense the resulting historical work would be.

Rohan Butler was born in London, but from 1920 until 1928 his home was in Geneva where his father, Sir Harold

Butler, was head of the International Labour Office. Educated at Eton, he spent his vacations in Switzerland and early in life acquired fluent French and German which served him so well in his later scholarship. He went up to Balliol in 1935, where he was strongly influenced by his tutor, Humphrey Sumner, whose cosmopolitan approach to 18th-century history was probably a formative influence in the shaping of Butler's own scholarship. In 1938 he obtained a first class degree, and later that year was elected to a fellowship at All Souls, most unusually following the footsteps of the writer who has been elected a generation before.

Both his undergraduate career at Balliol and the first year of his fellowship had been lived under the shadow of the intensifying European crisis, and above all the rise of National Socialism in Germany. Butler, who throughout his life regarded despotic and repressive regimes with a patrician contempt, was uncompromisingly hostile to appeasement. In 1939 he published *The Roots of National Socialism (1789-1933)*, which proposed that many aspects of Nazism were deeply embedded in German culture. This influential book underpinned Butler's later arguments for

the formal suppression of the state of Prussia, arguments which were instrumental in shaping the decision of the allied Council of Foreign Ministers after the occupation of Germany in 1945.

When war broke out in 1939 Butler volunteered for the Navy, but was rejected on grounds of his poor eyesight. Instead he served in the Ministry of Information from 1939. In 1944 he was transferred to the Foreign Office, where he played a major role in planning for the allied occupation of Germany and Austria. His experience and the reputation he acquired here for meticulous preparation and a wide-ranging approach to problems provided him with the possibility of a subsequent career in the Foreign Office. He declined this, together with offers of tutorial fellowships at Balliol and Christ Church in favour of a major historical project whereby, initially as the subordinate of Sir Llewellyn Woodward, he undertook the compilation of a comprehensive selection of the documents in the British Foreign Office archive from 1919 to 1939.

The resulting volumes of *Documents on British Foreign Policy* revealed Butler's scholarship at its most rigorous and exacting. By now But-



Rohan Butler... rigorous and exacting scholarship

ler's reputation as a 20th-century diplomatic historian was well-established; he was invited to write the chapter on the peace of Versailles and its aftermath for the *New Cambridge Modern History*, and in 1963 was appointed to the post of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disastrous and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul. *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*, Affairs, a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disastrous and breakdown of a com-

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college, and possessed a vast fund of anecdotes and information about All Souls and its fellowship which would enliven his always generous and extremely entertaining hospitality. With his perceptive interest in the work of others, his intellectual enthusiasm and his totally unpreserving attitude to younger scholars, he would have made an excellent teacher. The stammer, which had been a serious problem in early life, was mastered to the point of becoming a rhetorical device, giving the punch-line of his stories a distinctive force which could be recalled by his friends as easily as his wonderfully extrovert and individual laugh. In 1956 he married Lucy Byron, sister of Robert Byron the travel writer and founder of the Georgian Group, and they enjoyed 40 years of exceptional, not only by a deep personal commitment but by a closely shared commitment to Rohan's academic work, Lucy's own strong intellectual and local interests, and the running of Lucy's family home, White Noddy Hall in Essex.

David Parrott

Rohan Butler, historian, born January 21, 1917; died October 30, 1996

Birthdays

John Barnes, footballer, 33; Sir John Egan, chief executive, BAA, 57; Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Conservative MP, 51; Dr Billy Graham, evangelist, 78; Dame Gwyneth Jones, operatic soprano, 60; Wolf Mankowitz, author and playwright, 72; Jon Mitchell, singer and songwriter, 33; Sean Shrimpton, hotelier, former model, 54; Dame Joan Sutherland, operatic soprano, 69; Helen Suzman, South African liberal champion, 73.

Death Notices

DOBSON, Dorothy, at the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, on 1st November. David John, actor, son of the late Marjorie and Hedley Dobson, to the late Rev. Funeral at Marble Arch Crematorium, at 2pm, on Thursday 7th November. Family flowers only. Donations please to Abbeyfield House Trust, 25 Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 1JW.

In Memoriam

MEATHER-NAYLES, Mrs, died tragically aged 18 years 7th July 1982. Remembered by her family.

Jackdaw



News bar

MR GROGAN says there is a lot of work to be done, and it is going to take about a year to get the hotel exactly as they want it. But already there is a nice atmosphere to the place, he says, and the Green Man will recapture its family-run community feel. The couple's plans for the hotel include: * Toilets in the Boswell Bar, which will be developed separately for people wanting a quiet drink or a bar snack, with daily newspapers available in racks on the walls. You do not want to imagine the chaos that would be in the cocktail.

Room tactics

1. STARE at the TV as if hypnotised as long as it is off, when your roommate turns it on, act uninterested and read a book. 2. When your roommate is home, change into the room, holding a broom as a rifle, scream, "The Nazis have come for us!", dive over the couch, and pretend to shoot about twenty of them, then put the broom away and go about your normal routine (repeat every hour). 3. Refuse to get dressed in front of the TV, whisper to your roommate "You never know what they're going to report next about me." 4. Quickly run up to your roommate, claim that it wasn't your fault, it was an accident, cling to his leg sobbing until he forgives you. 5. Fill an air tank with normal oxygen, claim that you're into inhaling helium, inhale some oxygen and then talk as deep as you can.

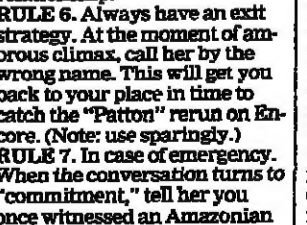
Counter-rules

RULE 1. The most important thing in any relationship is getting to "Yes! Yes! Oh God, yes!" Casually drop the fact that you spent a year at a Zen monastery in Hokkaido studying Ai Yi, a twelve-hundred-year-old philosophy - "technique, really" - that induces sustained sexual ecstasy in females. Scott at "those ridiculous reports" about women dying from Ai Yi-induced heart attacks, but concede that it is not uncommon for the woman to lose consciousness. RULE 2. It's better to drop names (even if you don't know them) than to get dropped. Hang an "autographed" photo of Mel Gibson in your bathroom, inscribed "To the real Braveheart." When she asks what it means, shrug and say, "Well, you know how Mel exag-gerates." RULE 3. A counter-rules man doesn't throw money away. Tell her that you're planning to spend two weeks cruising the Turkish coast on a yacht once owned by the Aga Khan, but that you have "too much respect" for her to invite her on

Buzz word

THE Andromeda Group was officially activated on 11-11-94. I am the Coordinator of this Group. I am to give the code word "Andromeda" to any and all people that I sense will respond. If you automatically feel an excitement when you see or hear the word "Andromeda" then you are part of the group. If you are not sure, please do the following: Write three words, any words, on a piece of paper. One of the words is to be "Andromeda." Say each word out loud. See how you RESPOND to the word "Andromeda." You may feel a response - it may be a tingling, or a sense of excitement or knowing. The Andromeda Group consists of specified individuals from around the world who are here for the purpose of the survival of this planet and its life forms. The larger purpose of how this mission is to be fulfilled is unknown at the first level. But I know intuitively the answer is there in the greater known unknown, and it will be revealed as we progress. Each person in the Group has specific skill or skills that they will be able to activate when called upon. For some individuals, it is one they only know of through true supernatural means. Thus, it is important that we begin to know who and where we are, and to link together. Within the context of this purpose are the topics of medicine, research, technology, air and space travel and exploration, water (both fresh and oceanic) food production, storage and service. There will

Jackdaw



News bar

MR GROGAN says there is a lot of work to be done, and it is going to take about a year to get the hotel exactly as they want it. But already there is a nice atmosphere to the place, he says, and the Green Man will recapture its family-run community feel. The couple's plans for the hotel include: * Toilets in the Boswell Bar, which will be developed separately for people wanting a quiet drink or a bar snack, with daily newspapers available in racks on the walls. You do not want to imagine the chaos that would be in the cocktail.

Room tactics

1. STARE at the TV as if hypnotised as long as it is off, when your roommate turns it on, act uninterested and read a book. 2. When your roommate is home, change into the room, holding a broom as a rifle, scream, "The Nazis have come for us!", dive over the couch, and pretend to shoot about twenty of them, then put the broom away and go about your normal routine (repeat every hour). 3. Refuse to get dressed in front of the TV, whisper to your roommate "You never know what they're going to report next about me." 4. Quickly run up to your roommate, claim that it wasn't your fault, it was an accident, cling to his leg sobbing until he forgives you. 5. Fill an air tank with normal oxygen, claim that you're into inhaling helium, inhale some oxygen and then talk as deep as you can.

Counter-rules

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THE BIG DEAL

Dominion... as it eyes E...

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Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

USAir to buy Airbus fleet

£1.1bn order safeguards jobs at BAe factories

Keith Harper and Mark Milner

AIRBUS Industrie was last night celebrating one of the world's largest ever orders — an £1.1-billion agreement to supply up to 300 aircraft to modernise USAir's fleet.

British Aerospace, which has a 20 per cent share in the European consortium and builds Airbus wings, will be one of the main beneficiaries of the deal. It will provide work for thousands of people for up to a decade.

Airbus said that the agreement included 120 firm orders for Airbus A319, A320 and A321 aircraft, all single-aisle planes with a capacity of between 125 and 175 seats, to be delivered between 1998 and 2002. It also has options to provide a further 280 aircraft up to the end of 2010.

Stephen Wolf, chairman of USAir, which is still British Airways' main US partner, said that it had to modernise and simplify its fleet by reducing operational costs and facing up to competition in its eastern US stronghold.

Chris Geoghegan, the senior British Aerospace executive responsible for Airbus, described the news as "tremendous". Sales figures this year were already showing a "steady upturn" as the airlines put the recession behind them.

More than 300 British businesses are directly involved in the Airbus design, providing more than 25,000 jobs. The USAir order comes at an important time in Airbus's development. The group has already decided to switch

Notebook

Lessons of the Clinton victory



Alex Brummer

THE predictability of Bill Clinton's presidential election victory should not be allowed to detract from its significance.

It will, of course, be argued by Republicans that this would never have happened but for the Contract with America which boxed the Clinton team in. However, by the time the Republicans took control of Congress, the deficit had already been halved and in the recent campaign it was the Republicans who were putting forward tax cuts that could have cost at least \$54 billion by the year 2002, not the Democrats.

That is why the bond and stock markets have reacted so well to the return of Mr Clinton. His electoral promises were sensibly measured: tax credits for college tuition, extension of individual retirement accounts (a tax-free savings vehicle favoured by New Labour in the UK) and "employment zones" designed to bring some of the benefits of the miracle economy to the ghetto. Implementing these has only marginal budget implications but could contribute to longer-run growth.

THE likelihood is that from the present budgetary base, moving towards balance by the year 2002, as agreed with Congress, looks absolutely reasonable. This will please the G7 allies who's greatest fear of a deficit spiralling upwards again. There will be concern as to whether the US's strong dollar policy, only in place since April 1985, will be sustained. In that, the architects of the policy, Robert Rubin at Treasury and Alan Greenspan at the Federal Reserve remain in place, the political odds look reasonably favourable.

But other government forces, including the currently headless Commerce Department and the tangentially exercised Group of Seven at its last session in late September and will be watched by central bankers and finance ministers everywhere.

THE budget deficit is central to what Mr Clinton has achieved and the economic prospects for his second term. Politically, as the US markets demonstrated in post-election trading, the combination of a comfortable (but not landslide Clinton victory) together with reaffirmation of Republican majorities in both houses of Congress means that the union is more or less safe from economic lunacies.

A bit of history is useful here. In fiscal year 1982, the last of the Republican three terms in office, the budget deficit was \$290 billion, or 4.9 per cent of gross domestic product. In 1995, it was \$183.9 billion and, according to new data, just released by the US Treasury, the deficit is now down to \$107 billion, 1.4 per cent of GDP, and one-third of the level when President Clinton took office.

There is a lesson here for the Bank of England, which in its latest Inflation Report is fighting the battle of the late 1980s against the bubble economy, refusing to recognise that the Clinton-Greenspan way is an alternative which does deliver growth.

Ofcom warns BT on Murdoch connection

Nicholas Bannister
Technology Editor

THE telecom regulator, Don Cruickshank, yesterday said he would object to British Telecom becoming a large shareholder in Rupert Murdoch's media and entertainment empire.

Mr Cruickshank, commenting on BT's £12 billion bid for MCI, said he was concerned about regulation of the converging telecommunication and information industries.

THE BIG DEAL



vest up to \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) in News Corporation in return for an equity stake.

Mr Cruickshank, the director general of Ofcom, said this aspect of the deal set alarm bells ringing. "If you look at the new communications industry, it will be all distribution and sale of information in digital form, and the old boundaries will fall away."

"I am very keen that we do not start on day one of this digital world with dominant players who are not properly regulated. The issue is not dominance but regulation."

Industry sources yesterday said that the acquisition of MCI by a former British monopoly supplier could trigger popular opposition in the US which would be seized on by politicians.

"I am concerned about players who are dominant in today's markets getting together in the new communications market. Therefore we have already been looking closely at BT and BskyB [40 per cent owned by News Cor-

On course, say Eurocrats Not so, claim bankers



Not up to the mark... Chancellor Helmut Kohl and finance minister Theo Waigel prepare for yesterday's cabinet as the RMI warned that the German economy was heading the wrong way for monetary union

Brussels in spat over terms for euro

John Palmer in Brussels and Ian Traynor in Bonn

EUROPE'S future central bank and the European Commission yesterday clashed over Brussels forecasts that an overwhelming majority of EU countries would make the grade for a 1999 introduction of a single currency — the euro.

for Kenneth Clarke in his Budget this month. Senior commission sources appear increasingly confident that a Blair-led Labour government would take Britain into monetary union in January 1999 or a few months later.

The report attacked France's move to harness a \$5 billion windfall from France Telecom next year in the effort to bring the deficit under the EMU ceiling.

most countries the benefit of the doubt. Only Denmark, Ireland and Luxembourg are now judged to be fully on target for the single currency, but the commission says that every EU member state except Greece will meet the treaty's inflation and long term interest rate targets next year.

The commission estimates the British budget deficit at 3.5 per cent for the next calendar year, but it believes this could still allow a 3 per cent deficit to be reached in the financial year 1997-98 — parity because its forecast makes no allowance for any measures to be announced by Chancellor

While most are expected to scrape through the crucial budget deficit test, fewer states will reduce government debt to the treaty target of 60 per cent of GDP. But the commission noted that the treaty allowed countries to join monetary union if they were on their way to achieving lower debt.

Referring to the efforts being made by governments to prepare their finances for monetary union, Yves Thibault de Silguy, economic affairs commissioner, said: "For the majority of member states the biggest part of budgetary consolidation has been put on the road in a credible manner. The overall economic picture is fairly confident... and the financial markets are now firmly convinced that the euro will be introduced in January 1999."

On target?

Country	Target	Actual
Belgium	2.0%	0.2%
Denmark	0.0%	0.0%
Germany	0.0%	0.0%
Greece	3.0%	3.0%
Spain	1.0%	1.0%
France	1.0%	1.0%
Ireland	1.0%	1.0%
Italy	1.0%	1.0%
Luxembourg	0.0%	0.0%
Netherlands	1.0%	1.0%
Portugal	1.0%	1.0%
UK	3.5%	3.5%
Austria	1.0%	1.0%
Finland	1.0%	1.0%
Sweden	1.0%	1.0%

Two rebel Emap directors take battle to chairman

Ian King

KEN Simmonds and Joe Cooke, the two rebel directors of Emap, yesterday publicly accused the media group's chairman, Sir John Hoskyns, of misleading shareholders before this summer's stormy annual meeting.

The pair, who face calls for their removal from Emap's board at an egm next month, said Sir John wanted to oust them because they had opposed controversial changes to Emap's articles of association at the meeting.

They said Sir John had promised at the meeting that the change would be used as "a last resort", and that he had denied that there were any "difficulties" on the board.

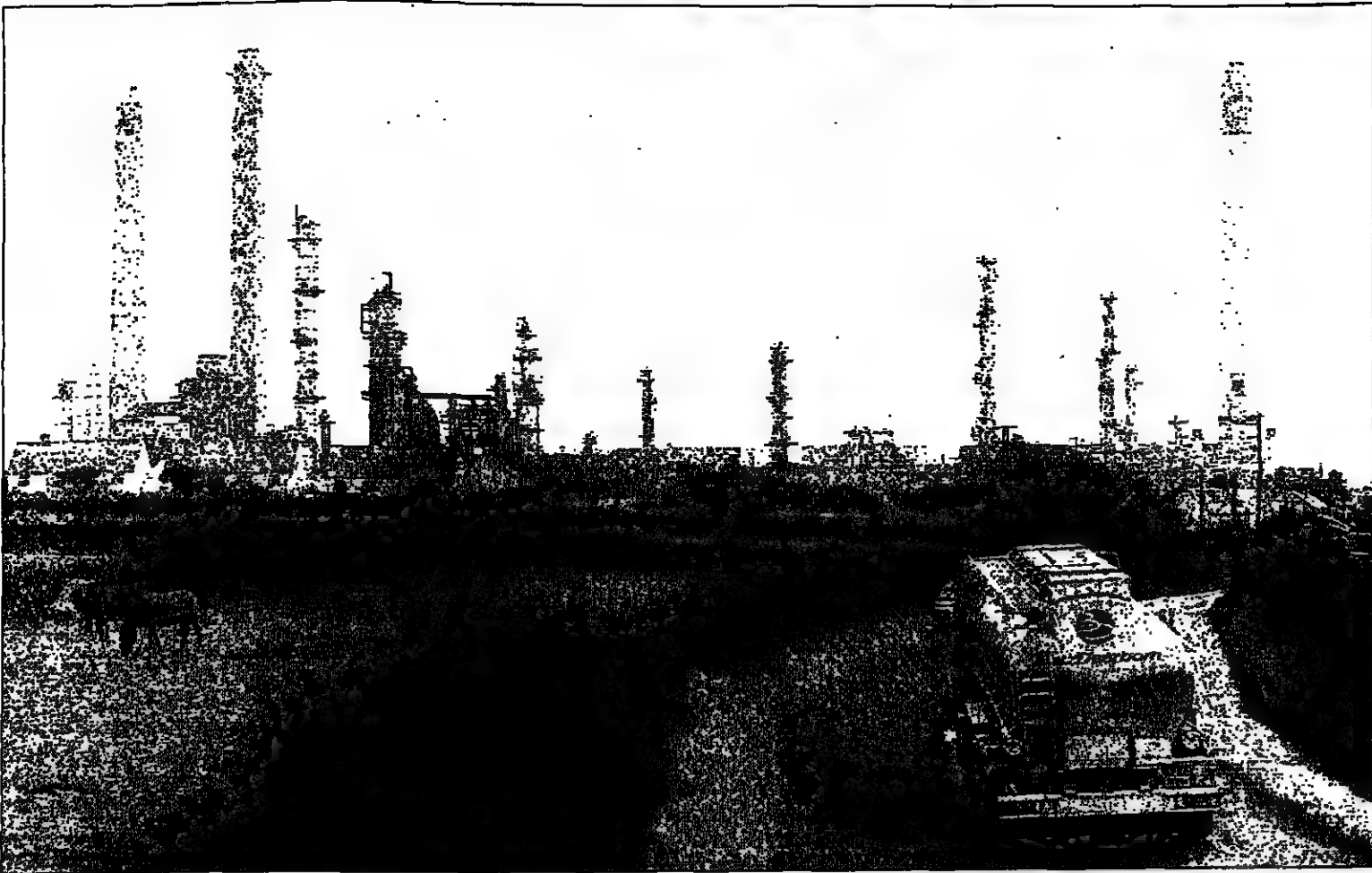
More damningly, they said that in a letter to the Association of British Insurers, Sir John had written: "There seems to be a view that we are seeking to 'restructure' the board in some way. Can I give you my categorical assurance that there is no such intention."

However, Mr Cooke — a former managing director of the Telegraph — and Prof Simmonds said that in the first board meeting after the egm, Sir John "demanded" that they should resign adding that if they refused he would call an extraordinary meeting to remove them.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS			
Australia 2.0175	France 6.22	Italy 2.470	Singapore 2.280
Austria 17.7	Germany 2.4350	Japan 1.5735	South Africa 7.8
Belgium 50.22	Greece 387.00	Netherlands 2.7425	Spain 205.15
Canada 2.14	Hong Kong 12.41	New Zealand 2.25	Sweden 10.77
Cyprus 0.730	India 59.75	Norway 10.30	Switzerland 2.04
Denmark 8.4165	Ireland 0.8775	Portugal 2.4770	Turkey 153.225
Finland 7.4800	Israel 5.34	Saudi Arabia 6.13	USA 1.61

Supplied by NatWest Bank including Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel

Survival of the fittest in oil game



The Gulf refinery at Milford Haven will be kept open for storage to avoid the cost of restoring the land to a greenfield site

Merger costs 500 jobs

Gulf Oil and Murco

THE planned merger by Elf, Gulf Oil and Murco of their UK refining and marketing operations, announced yesterday, will cost at least 500 jobs and save an estimated £50 million a year.

The merger, expected to be completed early next year, has been prompted by excess capacity and shrinking profit margins. It will create an as yet unnamed new company with about 1,500 service stations and an estimated 8 per cent share of the UK fuels market. The supermarket chains currently have an estimated 18 per cent share of forecourt petrol sales.

ships and mergers of downstream operations. Earlier this year, BP and Mobil were given the go ahead by European Union authorities to combine their refining and marketing of fuels and lubricants to create a venture expected to secure a 12 per cent share of the fuels market and an 18 per cent share of the lubricants market in Europe.

Shell Oil Company, the US arm of Royal Dutch Shell, is in talks with American company Texaco to combine US refining and marketing operations in a multi-billion dollar venture that could potentially control 15 per cent of the US petroleum products market.

brokershire, from the middle of next year, leaving two refineries — Elf and Texaco — operating in the town. The Gulf refinery, some of whose modern plant has been sold to Texaco, will be kept open as a storage facility rather than shut down, to avoid the merger company incurring the additional expense of returning the land to a greenfield site.

Merging the three workforces of 1,222 staff is expected to lead to about 250 job losses on the refining side and another 250 among staff at the three headquarters. The new company will have its headquarters at Elf's offices in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The companies said they were committed to looking for early retirement, voluntary redundancy or limited redeployment to manage the losses.

Downstream deal

Three companies combine assets in new venture

Table comparing Murco Petroleum Limited, Elf Oil UK Limited, and Gulf Oil (GB) Limited across various metrics like service stations, employees, and market share.



Adair unflustered as the litmus test turns towards red

CBI chief is determined to remain neutral while warning to Labour, Larry Elliott and Simon Beavis report

TEN YEARS ago Adair Turner was working his way up through the ranks of the management consultants, McKinsey, after brief dalliance with the Social Democrats. It was six months before a general election, Mrs Thatcher and Nigel Lawson were in their pomp, and the Government could scarcely care less about the business vote. It was simply assumed to be the Tories'.

of Labour's education and training policy, and agrees that there is a problem with Britain's investment record. But Mr Turner is just as impressed, if not more so, with the things Labour has ditched — "I welcome the shifts in policy: the dumping of Clause IV, the broadly more pro-business stance, the commitment to macro-economic stability and the tight control of borrowing."

'I welcome the shifts in policy — the dumping of Clause Four, the broadly more pro-business stance, the commitment to macro-economic stability and the tight control of borrowing'

more and more that these are problems business can come to terms with. Provided New Labour really means what it says about resisting pressure from Brussels for an extension of qualified majority voting on social legislation, the Social Chapter is less of a worry than the CBI has liked to pretend in the past.

Some CBI members, Mr Turner admits, see the benefits of a minimum wage provided it is at a suitable level. "At £4.26 (the old TUC formula of half male median earnings) it would have a significant impact on unemployment with the loss of between 125,000 and 250,000 jobs. Set at the low £3s its impact would be very much less."

The neutral stance looks to some like smart politics even if it means being frustratingly uncontroversial. In fact it represents a clear understanding that on several key issues — Europe, education and tax — the CBI has little to gain and everything to lose from being dragged into the parties' battle for the business vote.

Power firms launch attack on confused regulation

Simon Beavis Industrial Editor

TWO of the leading privatised electricity companies claimed yesterday that they would be exempt from Labour's proposed windfall tax on the utilities as they launched scathing attacks on the Government and its watchdog about the state of regulation. In evidence to the Commons Trade and Industry select committee, PowerGen and the National Grid both said that they expected to be exempt from the tax which Labour says it will use to fund an emergency programme for jobless youth.

dedicated that the company would not be liable for the levy.

The National Grid said that its recent rebate of £50 per customer, implemented when the company was floated and worth a total of £1 billion, had already accounted for any excess profits that Labour could target. A newly agreed price control would ensure there would be no excess profits in future, the chairman, David Jefferies, claimed. The companies were giving evidence alongside US-owned Sweb to the committee's investigation into utility regulation and all utility criticised the Government and the regulator, Stephen Littlechild, for inconsistencies in policy towards the electricity sector.

Bank urges Clarke to raise rates

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

THE Bank of England yesterday put renewed pressure on the Chancellor for higher interest rates and an ultra-cautious Budget, after claiming that last week's small rise in the cost of borrowing was insufficient to counter mounting inflationary pressure.

Despite the 8 per cent rise in sterling this year, the Bank's quarterly Inflation Report stressed that higher wages, stronger growth and dwindling industrial capacity were warning signs that should not be ignored. Underlying inflation, excluding mortgages, would only briefly drop below the Government's 2.5 per cent target during next year before starting to rise once more.

Mervyn King, the Bank's director of economics, said the continual failure to hit its "elusive" inflation target could raise doubts about the credibility of policy. "The later we leave it [raising interest rates] the more we will have to do", he said. The hawkish tone of the report made it clear that the Bank saw the quarter-point rise in base rates to 8 per cent merely as redressing the fall of a similar size in June, which it strongly opposed.

Industrialists have already expressed concern about the impact of a dearer pound on exports, but the Bank said yesterday that the priority had to be the control of inflation by using base rates. It acknowledged that the balance of the economy had shifted away from exports towards consumption during the course of 1996, and that this trend was likely to be reinforced by the stronger pound.

Underside

Dan Atkinson

LOUD drilling noises drowned out Mervyn King, Bank of England economics supremo, yesterday as he tried to brief the media on the Old Lady's latest inflation report. There, he said, was the evidence of the roaring boom: the construction industry was working at full tilt. Maybe, but given that the briefing took place in a basement at the Bank, somewhere near the famous vaults, let's hope the drilling wasn't related to a pre-recessionary upswing in crime.

body paint" and "kissing chocolate". BHS's dreadfully risqué offerings for Yuletide lovers. But the nadir is reached with "Let it rip", a "fun pot" designed to simulate wind-breaking activities. We could go on to detail the "BHS Flushing Toilet Money Boxes", but are feeling a little sick.

game, due soon in the Daily Telegraph. Players pick and mix real-life FTSE 100 directors and win or lose on the performance of their shares. There was just one non-negotiable, deal-breaking condition laid down by Microsoft: nowhere — nowhere — was there to be any stoutheaded references to fellow creatures. A shame, as the Telegraph had planned to call the game Fantasy Fatcats.

troubled organ to stand for Parliament. No, not a late-comer to the Referendum Party, he is to campaign as an independent against Tory MP Gerald Howarth in Aldershot. Quite what TR has against Mr Howarth is unclear, but he told us: "I don't think his record stands up to scrutiny". Aggrieved creditors of Sunday Business Mark 1 (the version that went into administration) may harbour similar thoughts about Candidate Rubython.



Advertisement for Mercury Business Solutions, featuring the text 'JUST WHAT YOUR COMPANY NEEDS TO REDUCE ITS BT PHONE BILL. MERCURY.' and a form to request a free call.

UNIMPEACHABLE evidence that those of us who feared the worst when good old British Home Stores fell to Sir Terence Conran more than a decade ago were oh-so-right to do so. BHS (no trendy lower-case letters here) yesterday vomited up a "Christmas Shop" product list of such abominable taste as to make fans of the old order throw away their vintage BHS desk-lamps. Most of us could probably live with the "chocolate

ON A more wholesome note, those Brits at origin Environment and Media Awards on Tuesday night at the May Fair Hotel (we won't discuss the winners save to say the Guardian took the top three prizes) demonstrated what may be intriguing changes to the Green Lifestyle. Entrants paid a £25 fee, in return for which they attended the ceremony and slugged back as much free drink as they could handle. Alcoholic drinks, that is; orange juice, the greenies' favourite beverage, cost £2 a glass. This is the kind of environment for which we could all sign up.

ELSEWHERE. Bill Gates, the fons et origo of billionaire anoraks, is a bit touchy on the topic of executive greed, we hear. His Microsoft company is providing the £50,000 prize for the Fantasy Boardroom

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Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

Racing

Jodami tops the Hennessy weights

Chris Hawkins

JODAMI, who will be 12 at the turn of the year, has been shown no mercy by the handicapper and burdened with 12st in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury on November 30.

Beaumont doubts whether Jodami will run but plans an outing at Ayr for him on Saturday week before reaching a decision.

Among his likely opponents in the Ayr race is The Grey Monk, one of four Hennessy entries from Gordon Richards whose strong hand is made up by Addington Boy (10st 13lb), Unguided Missile (10-11) and Tartan Tyrant (10-8).

Deep Decision looks on course for fourth victory

DEEP DECISION (3.50) likes the flat-lands of Lincolnshire and goes for his fourth win at Market Rasen this afternoon, writes Chris Hawkins.

My Gallery (3.30) have been prolific winners and are after the record number of handicaps in a season.

Baronet, one of David Nicholson's bright prospects for the top novice chasers this season, made a winning debut over fences at Kempton yesterday.



Winning leap... Palosanto on his way to victory in the Preston Amateur Riders' Handicap Hurdle at Haydock yesterday

Baronet's performance is full of promise

BARONET, one of David Nicholson's bright prospects for the top novice chasers this season, made a winning debut over fences at Kempton yesterday.

The winner of two of his previous three starts over hurdles, he started at 8-13 and produced a competent, if not spectacular, display of jumping to stretch several lengths clear of his nearest rival on the run for home.

"We will feel our way with him. I have a lot of novice chasers and this would not be a bad horse. His hurdle form is more than adequate."

close at Worcester recently, landed the Ascot Cup Novices' Chase in fine style after being found guilty of "misleading the stewards of the Jockey Club."

Trophy. However, the success was only achieved after Master Orchestra had to be pulled up approaching the last when appearing to have the measure of his rival.

Musselburgh card with guide to the form

Table of race results for Musselburgh, including race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

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Lingfield all-weather programme

Table of race results for Lingfield, including race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

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Market Rasen (N.H.)

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Kurta backed

KUTTA has been heavily backed for Saturday's Tote Credit November Handicap at Doncaster. Corral's have cut Robert Armstrong's colt to 9-2 from 6-1, while Hill's and Ladbrokes go 4-1.

RACELINE logo with text '0930 1684 COMMENTARY' and 'MUSSELBURGH 101 201 102 202 103 203'.

Athletics

Tromans gets to the heart of the matter

Duncan Mackay charts the remarkable endurance of a long-distance runner who is now back in action and bound for Japan

ON MARCH 1995, Glyn Tromans was working on qualifying for the world championships in Gothenburg later that year. Within months, however, he was unable to complete even a light workout without stopping to catch his breath.

The reward came yesterday when he was named for his Great Britain debut in the 26.2-mile London relay in Chiba, Japan on November 23 together with Paul Taylor, Darrin Burrows, Ian Gillespie and Mick Jones.



On the up and up... training is no longer inclined to be a pain for Glyn Tromans now that two operations have got his heart ticking over properly again. PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN ROBERTSON

In much the same way that city residents treat a car alarm: they know it is supposed to signify that something bad is going on but have experienced so much to the contrary that they tend to ignore it and wait for the annoyance to stop.

through the arteries into his heart, and an attack induced. Once the precise location of the extra pathway was discovered, it was disconnected.

decide it was the right thing to do. It's taken me a long time to get to this level; I didn't want something to stop me making the next step up.

Denmark. If this operation was going to help I was going to have it.

"I think far more nails were bitten among my family and friends than by me. Even now I still don't think it was that big a deal; it was just something I had to do to be successful, like going out for a training session."

Soccer

Emerson off but Branco back at Boro

Michael Walker

EIGHT days after Middlesbrough parted company with one of the best young players in England, Nick Barmby, they may be about to lose another of their big-name buys.

ilar claim about another Middlesbrough player he represents, Fabrizio Ravanelli. "If it's about Emerson," said Paladini in reply to yet another quizzing yesterday, "I don't know what has happened. Speak to the club, to Keith Lamb, Bryan Robson, Viv Anderson. As far as I know I've got to pick him [Emerson] up on Tuesday at Heathrow."

Scotland seek Group Four security Merson has to fall out

Patrick Glenn says Craig Brown's battlers are in the unfamiliar role of favourites as they prepare to meet Sweden on Sunday

WHATSOEVER the result of FIFA's deliberations today on Scotland's abortive trip to Estonia last month, it is unlikely to have a telling influence on the prospect of Craig Brown's team reaching the World Cup finals.

against Estonia and Austria at home on March 29 and April 2 coming next for Scotland, a string of victories starting on Sunday would make them almost uncatchable.

expelling Estonia and awarding victories to all the other group members would be the most equitable judgment.

PAUL MERSON suffered a setback to his England rehabilitation yesterday when he was forced to withdraw from the squad that flew to Georgia for Saturday's World Cup qualifier.

England coach Glenn Hoddle, who had already lost the Liverpool defender Dominick Matteo, decided not to send for replacements and left with a squad of 21.

Little firm on Milosevic deal

ASTON VILLA's manager Brian Little has refused to let the striker go. Milosevic join Perugia on loan. He insisted yesterday that the deal must go ahead as agreed, with the striker moving for £4.5 million.

down talk of a dispute with his goalkeeper Ian Bennett, whom he had a heated exchange after Saturday's 4-0 defeat at Portsmouth. Francis insisted yesterday that the player has a long-term future at St Andrews.

Ice Hockey

Rescue hope for Pirates

Vic Batchelder

THE financially ailing Peterborough Pirates, who had expected to be wound up after last Sunday's home game with Telford, appear to have been saved after a group of local businessmen stepped in yesterday with a last-minute offer to run the club.

Sport in brief

Tennis Greg Rusedski, Britain's No. 2, continued his recent revival by beating the Australian Sandon Stolle 6-4, 6-3 to reach the quarter-finals of the Stockholm Open yesterday.

Snooker

Clive Everton in Bangkok ENGLAND's juggernaut of three players from the world's top eight, Peter Ebdon, Nigel Bond and Ronnie O'Sullivan, took a lengthy diversion late in the journey to the semi-finals of the World Cup here before clinching a 10-5 win over Australia.

Bond shaken by welder

Stan Gorski, whose 50 hours a week as a boiler-maker/welder ordinarily restricts his snooker to weekends, won two of the next three frames, making a 68 break to beat Bond and a 50 clearance to the pink to pip O'Sullivan. Between these two successes Australia's talented, if wayward, 18-year-old prospect Quentin Hann made a 77 break against Ebdon to score his third win of the day.

Results

Table listing sports results including Soccer (AVON INSURANCE OPERATIONS), Basketball (SUNSHINE TORONTO), Cricket (TOURNAMENT), and Tennis (KREMLIN CUP).

Fixtures

Table listing upcoming fixtures for Soccer (AVON INSURANCE OPERATIONS), Basketball (SUNSHINE TORONTO), and Tennis (KREMLIN CUP).

Cricket

Table listing cricket fixtures including TOTTENHAM v LEICESTER.

Motor Sport

Table listing motor racing events such as the Toyota Gazoo GT4.

SPORTS NEWS 15

Cricket

Headley starts England A on road to victory

Andy Wilson in Adelaide

EMBARRASSED in their opening tour fixture by a New South Wales Second XI and now shunted off the Test ground here to Oval No. 2, England A responded admirably with a highly efficient 50-over performance against South Australia.

An opening spell of one for eight in six overs by Kent's Dean Headley set the tone before the captain Adam Holoake took three for 44 as the home side were restricted to 203 for seven. Mark Butcher kept England on course with an excellent 78 before Holoake, his Surrey team-mate, steered them home with more than five overs to spare in an unbroken fifth-wicket stand of 80 with Craig White.

South Australia won the Sheffield Shield last year but this season, with their seamer Jason Gillespie and leg-spinner Peter McIntyre playing for Australia and their left-arm pace bowler Mark Harriott injured, they are bottom of the inter-state limited-overs competition.

Those three, however, may be back for the four-day fixture starting at the main Oval tomorrow, and like the new Middlesex signing Greg Blewett they will be pushing for places in the Test series against West Indies.

Blewett's star has faded since he scored centuries on his Test debut against England on his home ground in 1993 and in the next game at Perth. He struggled in subsequent series against West Indies and Pakistan and has not played since. But batting spots against the Windies could again be up for grabs after Australia's recent Test defeat by India and a record six-match losing run in one-

day cricket, with Ricky Ponting at No. 3 and Michael Bevan at No. 5 vulnerable.

"The No. 3 spot is the best way," said Blewett, 25. "My aim is not to go and play for Middlesex next year, it is to go on the Ashes tour."

He struggled yesterday, however, against Headley's opening spell. He battled to 45 from 85 balls with four fours but then hit a slower ball straight to White at cover. Holoake was England's most expensive bowler but earned his three wickets, varying his pace and taking a spectacular return catch to dismiss Jeff Vaughan.

Mike Gatting thought a dropped catch by Michael Vaughan at deep square-leg off Peter Such had cost 20 runs because the beneficiary, Darren Lehmann, went on to an unbeaten 61. But in reply Butcher shared stands of 30 in 12 overs with Michael Vaughan and 67 in 15 with Anthony McGrath; he reached his second half-century in three tour innings from 63 balls, and although his dismissal, immediately following that of Owais Shah, caused a few jitters, Holoake and White ensured victory was comfortable enough.

West Indies crashed to a nine-wicket defeat by Western Australia at the Waca. Brian Lara, deputising as captain for Courtney Walsh, had a dismal day. He slashed wildly at a delivery from the paceman Mark Atkinson in the eighth over and was caught behind by Ryan Campbell for seven and then saw his side crumble to 137 for eight in their 31 overs of a rain-affected encounter.

Western Australia stroled to victory, Campbell scoring 64 not out and Damien Martyn 51 not out as they reached 128 for one in 19.2 overs.

Boxing

King draws up plan for Tyson

MIKE TYSON's fight calendar for next year was drawn up by the promoter Don King yesterday, four days before the World Boxing Association champion makes his first defence against Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas.

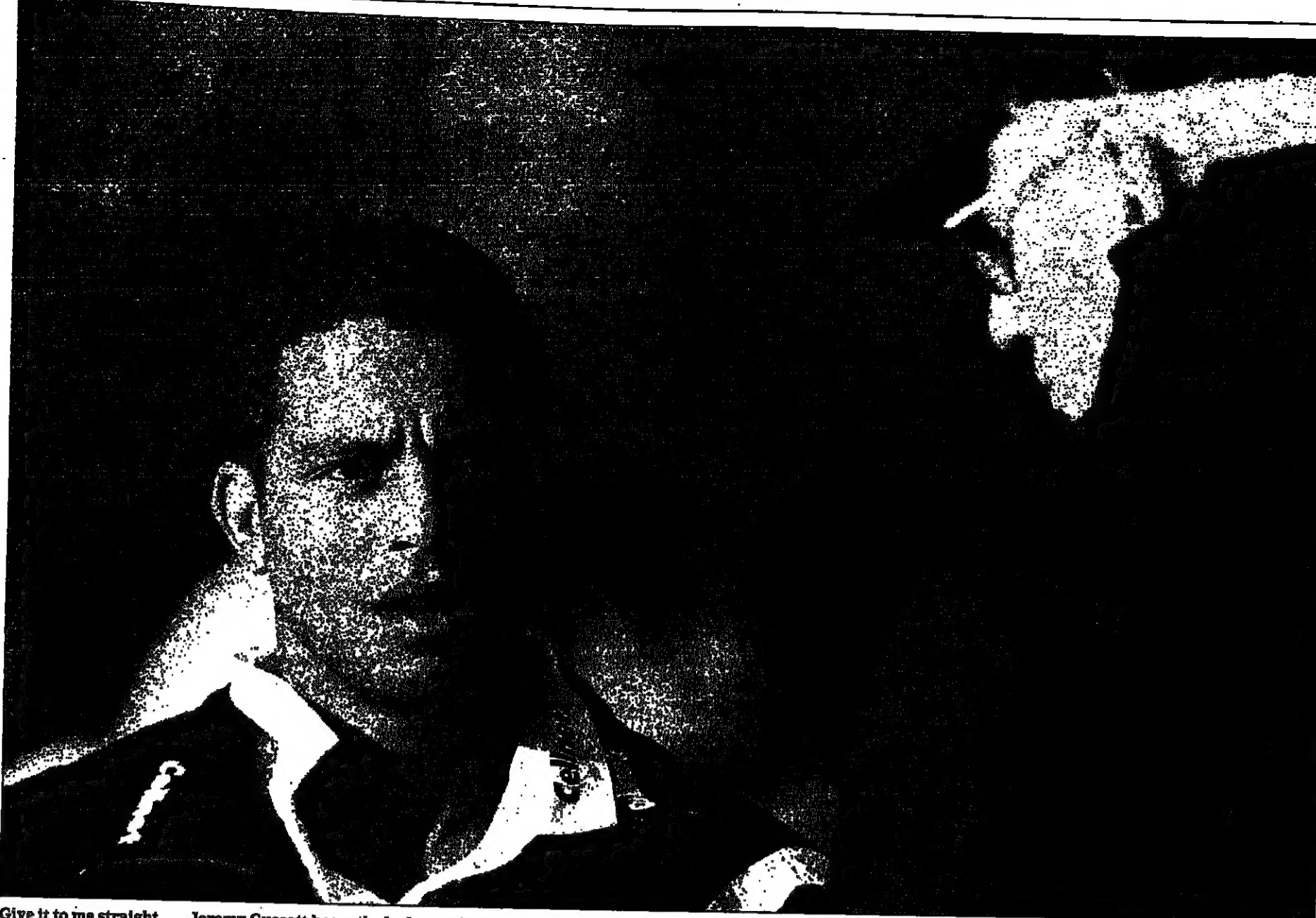
Tyson's heavyweight fortune is due to swell through a schedule that might end with a fight against George Foreman in September. First he is expected to make a second defence of his WBA title in New York on January 28 against Andrew Golota or Ray Mercer, who on December 14 fight Riddick Bowe and Tim Witherspoon respectively.

The International Boxing Federation champion Michael Moorer in Las Vegas on March 15, and after that comes a June 26 meeting for the World Boxing Council and WBA titles with Oliver McCull — if the latter beats Britain's Lennox Lewis for the vacant title in the new year.

Lewis did not figure in King's blueprint. "I couldn't even dream of Lewis beating McCull," he quipped. "Lennox has two chances, slim and none. And slim's left town."

Should Lewis beat McCull, however, it would be logical for King to slot in the British fighter.

Then Tyson is down to meet



Give it to me straight... Jeremy Guscott hears the bad news from Jack Rowell at Blaham Abbey yesterday

Not centre stage but still in the wings

Eddie Butler says that, in the new era of tactical substitutions, Jeremy Guscott may not be warming the bench for too long. The Lion could yet play a role in Jack Rowell's New England

THE old bestseller, 'Things Not To Do On The Rugby Field', is full of puerile homilies: "Fall over, young man, in Dunedin. And you're sure to go home a 'bleedin'".

dropped from the first England XV to be captained by Phil de Glanville. The loss of Richards is the less dramatic for they've been trying to get rid of Deano for years. Too slow, too set in his ways, too strong to manage.

Christie-quick, Caffreys smooth. He may have been underused but he was the Plan B in waiting, or rather he was the alternative style that was given just enough licence to perform to keep the onlooker in a state of perpetual frustration.

early try against Scotland at Murrayfield in the Grand Slam decider of 1990. But that was a game England lost. Introspection took over; the forwards took over; the snarling Nineties, his sneer already rehearsed in the Lions' series win in Australia in 1989. His grubber-and-sprint try in the decisive Test against the Wallabies was an up-pours replacement in the outside world, rather than a gentle reproach to his own team that there might be a less brutal way of doing things.

England stopped gliding and began growling. From then on we lived on matches of Guscott: a scaring, wange-ful right-foot drop goal against Scotland at Murrayfield, and against them at Twickenham a middle-man role between Stuart Barnes and Rory Underwood, when he purred and passed with silky grace. With the Lions in New Zealand in 1989 he

was one of the few whom the All Blacks would have invited to stay and play real rugby. They, too, would have liked to see more of him. And then he disappeared, rendered inactive by the sort of invisible pelvic injury that was as frustrating to cure as the centre had become to watch. And when he did return it was clear he was not the player of old.

Anglo-Welsh Cup: Neath 19, Leicester 36

Back returns to give Tigers bite

NEIL BACK's comeback after a six-month suspension for man-handling a referee lasted an hour at the Gnuil last night before the England flanker limped off with a recurrence of a hamstring strain. By then Leicester had maintained the dominance of English clubs in what has virtually become a competition for reserves.

Richard Cockerill, who played at hooker for Leicester after driving 150 miles from England's training session at Blaham Abbey, had a sparky duel with Barry Williams and, despite Leicester's ascendancy, there was an edge to the game which occasionally shimmered over. Neath had a number of chances before Leicester made their interval lead 23-0 when Malone stung over.

Campese and Hastings in the cold

ON THE day Jeremy Guscott was banished to the bench, Scott Hastings and David Campese, Scotland's and Australia's most capped players, discovered they will likewise be among the replacements when their national sides meet at Murrayfield on Saturday.

Hastings, who surpassed his brother Gavin's haul of 61 caps in the second Test in New Zealand last summer, is replaced in the centre by the new captain Greg Townsend, who moves from fly-half to accommodate Craig Chalmers. Gary Armstrong, preferred at fortnight to Bryan Redpath, renews his partnership with Chalmers.

The London Scot Ronnie Eriksson, who played in the first Test against the All Blacks, makes his home Test debut at inside-centre. The 29-year-old flanker Murray Wallace is given a Test debut at blind-side flanker in the absence of Scotland's injured captain Rob Walcott. Wallace impressed in last week's Scotland A game

against the Wallabies. Campese, who made his 100th appearance for the Wallabies against Italy a fortnight ago, makes way for the powerful 20-year-old left-wing Joe Roff. Australia have also left out the scrum-half George Gregan and the prop Andrew Heath from the team that beat Italy 40-18. The pair are replaced by Sam Payne and Andrew Elades. The flanker Owen Finegan makes his Test debut.

Rugby League

Salford catch a sprinter

PETER MATTLAND, a 23-year-old winger and international sprinter, has joined Salford Reds from Bridgend rugby union club. Andy Gregory, Salford's coach, said that Mattland had "explosive pace and could be a sensation in league". He competed for Wales in the 1994 Commonwealth Games in the 100 metres, 200m and 4 x 400m relay and is among the quickest British sprinters with 10.42sec for the 100m.

Tennis

Ice-hot Ivanisevic

GORAN IVANISEVIC delivered 23 aces, conceded only 10 points on his serve throughout the match, skidded impermissibly with the umpire, and wore his hair whirled up on the crown of his head with a rubber band like Mr Whippy in the ice-cream ad.

Rallying

McRae enjoys reign in Spain

COLIN McRAE beat his Italian team-mate Piero Liati as Subaru took first and second places in the Catalunya Rally yesterday and claimed victory in the manufacturers' championship. The deposed world champion started the last leg of the 350-mile Spanish event three seconds behind Liati. He seized the lead on the penultimate stage and held it to complete his third victory of the season.

Quinnell hints at England move

SCOTT QUINNELL, the Richmond No. 8 who is refusing to accept a place in the Wales squad because of a row over pay, may make himself available for England next year.

being seriously considered after what he claimed was a failure by the Welsh Rugby Union to stick to an enhanced pay package agreed last month. The 24-year-old player thought he had been offered a £20,000 retainer for the season, £4,000 a match and the same for a win bonus. He turned Wales down last week after being presented with a package of £10,000 for the season — subject to signing a contract — with £1,000 a match and a £1,000 win bonus.

Advertisement for 'MORE money' featuring interest rates of 10.5%, 11.9%, and 12.9% APR. Includes a table with columns for Loan Value, APR, Example Monthly Repayment, and Monthly Repayment for 15 and 25 years. The table shows that for a £20,000 loan at 10.5% APR, the monthly repayment is £144.77 for 15 years and £112.82 for 25 years.

Heart patient runs for GB, page 14
England back on track, page 15

Emerson goes walkabout, page 14
Back returns after ban, page 15

SportsGuardian

Carling survives clean-out

Robert Armstrong

WILL CARLING has confounded expectations by keeping his place in Jack Rowell's England team. He will win his 67th cap in a mid-field partnership with the new captain Phil de Glanville against Italy at Twickenham on November 23. Carling's selection means there is no place for his long-serving England partner Jeremy Guscott, who has been in outstanding form with Bath.

among the replacements. The England coach Rowell has dispensed with half a dozen players, including the Northampton half-backs Matt Dawson and Paul Grayson. Carling, who resigned as captain in March, is the only survivor from an old guard that included Dean Richards, Rory Underwood and Guscott. "The ramifications of making Phil captain were obvious but I kept an open mind and, when I came to training, I was pleasantly surprised," said Carling. "But I'm under no illusions about what it will take to stay there."

Rowell said he had no objection to Carling, at 30 the oldest player in the team, playing at fly-half for Harlequins. "If that's how Will refreshes his mind and keeps himself stimulated, so be it," Guscott, surviving on the bench after 45 caps, said. "It was always going to be difficult picking two out of three. At least tactical substitutions are allowed now."

No such option remains for Dawson and Grayson, who may have played their last games for England. The back division scored only three championship tries last season. Instead the 21-year-old Gomersall and Mike Catt, whose sole England appearance at fly-half came against South Africa last year, form a new half-back pairing. The introduction of Adebayo and Stimpson reflects Rowell's desire for extra pace and scoring potential among the backs. Adebayo, who has plundered 12 tries for Bath

this season, replaces Underwood on the left wing. Stimpson, who is 23, also brings formidable attacking power to the side and will not be distracted by goal-kicking duties; these have been given to Catt. "Last season at West Hartlepool captain it was heart-breaking to go 18 league games without a win," he said. "But since I've gone to Newcastle I don't have that kind of responsibility. I am surrounded by British Lions and I've benefited greatly."

Rowell, the former Bath coach, has included five Bath backs in his squad of 21. The potential bonus is attractive provided the pack generates quick clean ball. It remains to be seen whether the Bristol lock Shaw will add more athletic-

Oxbridge Ron sent up and brought down



Paul Weaver

ALLEX FERGUSON, glum old Tagger himself, must be pondering whether he has enough puff to blow out the 10 candles on his sour-cream birthday cake. Instead he should remind himself that, if there is someone to be pitied more than the manager of Manchester United, it is the former manager of Manchester United. Just look at the list since Sir Matt: Wilf McGuinness, Frank O'Farrell, Tommy Docherty, Dave Sexton, Ron Atkinson. Does anyone have a number for the Missing Persons Bureau?

This week Atkinson, the last of the actor-impresario managers, lost the job at Coventry City although, if you are to be handed your bat and P45 in bleak midwinter, being kicked upstairs as director of football with pocketfuls of spondulicks — reportedly £250,000 a year — is as nice a way as any. Oxbridge-educated Atkinson (Oxford United and Cambridge United) was 17 and on the Aston Villa ground staff when he bought a Ford Anglia for £34 and drove it to training. "Some mornings I'd see Jackie Sewell and Peter McParland at the bus stop. Now they were real big time. McParland had won the Cup for Villa and Sewell held the British transfer record. 'Jump in,' I'd say, 'and mind the upholstery.' They might have thought I was a flash little bugger but never said a word."

Atkinson grew up to be a flash big bugger. He had all the props of the Fantasy Football manager: the cigar and champagne; the Armani and Bo-jangles jewellery; the dark glasses; the posh car; the permanent mahogany suntan; the big house; and the M&H wife. It is his wife, or wives, who surely know him best. His first, Margaret, once said: "As far as he's concerned he's God." His present wife, Maggie, says that if people do not recognise him in the street he will go back and tell them who he is. In his Eighties pomp he appeared to be one of Margaret Thatcher's more obscene creations but he was an ageing yuppie before she got to No. 10 and had mastered the soundbite while Tony Blair was still at school.

not as bad as he makes out. He admits his last cigar was smoked 25 years ago and pretends to be drinking Buck's Fizz when it is orange juice. His big drink is really tea. The only people who don't like him are those who don't know him. Beneath the carefully created, rather superficial image — one that helped him land the job at Old Trafford as well as a few on TV — beats the heart of a real football man, a great enthusiast and an expert in man management. In recent years he has looked more Small Ron than Big Ron, more Corbett than Barker. His famous loyalty to players, including former players, has been overdone. He has relied too heavily on old pros when a side cried out for young blood, and perhaps too much on attack.

It is no good going forward like Brizzi if you are hemming-rhyming goals like Cleethorpes Thirds, and in recent years Aston Villa and Coventry, at the back, have looked about as convincing as Devon Malcolm's forward defensive. Richie Barker, a friend and the assistant manager at Sheffield Wednesday, is good on Atkinson. "When we were having a bad patch, I was quite happy if we won 1-0. But Ron never was. He liked to do everything with great style and sometimes I felt that style overtook the result. He doesn't just say 'Let's beat 'em.' He says 'Let's beat 'em easy.' But his knowledge is second to none. He got on with players and made training fun."

The old Coventry comforter, that they hold up well for the first half of the season and then fade after Christmas, looks a little threadbare this morning, with the club already near the bottom of the Premiership. If they bury themselves any deeper they will be coming out in Australia next April. Big Ron was, essentially, a cup manager, one for the big occasion. Big bad Doug Ellis, accused of being trigger-happy when he fired him at Aston Villa two years ago, may have been right after all; and so are Coventry, probably. But it is said to see the end of the last of the Personality Managers, following Allison, Clough, Docherty, Bond, Venables, McMenemy and others from the pages of The Stage. Then the boardroom took over and today managers look more like marmosets. If, at 57, Atkinson is finished in management, let us remember him for his one-liners — "You're a worse finisher than Devon Loch" and "I never comment on referees and I won't make an exception of that idiot". Goodbye, Mr Quips.

Sacchi out of luck in Bosnia

Paddy Agnew on a defeat for Italy that may be the last for their present coach

IT WAS intended as a match in which the result would come second to solidarity, goodwill and international cooperation. For the first time in months Italy's soccer coach Arrigo Sacchi was given a sympathetic reception by Italian sports media when he spoke about the importance of being the first national team to play Bosnia in Sarajevo. Unfortunately for Sacchi, who earns £250,000 a year, he is also the first Italy coach to lose to Bosnia. His side went down 2-1 on a bright, sunny afternoon. The striker Elvir Bolic scored Bosnia's winner just before half-time to add another famous scalp to his collection after his goal for Fenerbahce against Manchester United last week. Neither Bolic nor considerations about the Italian team's humanitarian gesture is likely to dampen reactions to yesterday's defeat. After Italy's first-round flop in Euro 96, Sacchi was already under fierce pressure to resign. Unimpressive World Cup qualifying wins last month against Moldova and Georgia did nothing for his cause.



Son of a gun... 'We'd make the bullets for Tommy and he'd fire them home. He scored goals that mattered,' said Wilf Mannion.

England mourns Lawton

Nick Varley and John Duncan on the most complete centre-forward the British game has produced, who died yesterday aged 77

TOMMY LAWTON, the most complete centre-forward in British history, died yesterday after a long illness. His death at 77 served as a graphic reminder of how the rewards and perils of football stardom have changed irrevocably in the past 50 years. Lawton, in a professional career that began at Burnley in October 1938 and ended at Kettering in 1957, scored more than 231 goals in 390 League appearances. He was famed for his heading ability, following Dixie Dean at Goodison Park. When he joined Everton he was greeted by his team-mate Joe Mercer with the comment: "Aye, son, you're a big 'un." Lawton replied: "Aye, and a good 'un."

he could never fit the boots of Everton's famous striker. But he did, and 34 goals in 26 games gave Everton the 1938-39 championship. The finest moment of an international career interrupted by the war was probably the 4-0 victory in Turin over the World Cup holders Italy in 1948 when he scored one of the goals. But Lawton, like many players of his generation, fell on hard times after football and became unemployed after falling in management at Notts County. "I would leave home of a morning pretending I had a job just like any other working man and I would sit all day in the market square or the library till it was time to go home again. More than once it crossed my mind to walk into the Trent, to end it all." He survived a



Lawton... 231 league goals

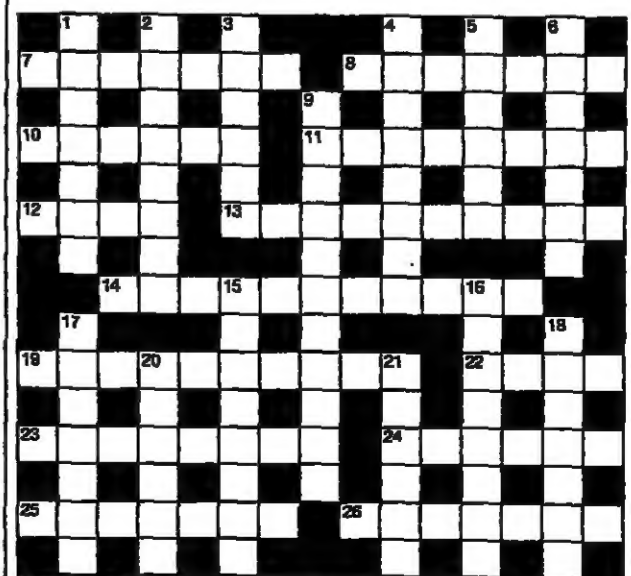
severe stroke in 1970 and had to sell his medals and cape despite late testimonials from Brentford and Everton. Sir Stanley Matthews, whom Lawton credited with creating three-quarters of his England goals, said: "It's a very sad day. He was a great centre-forward and a legend really. He was fun and modest and a great man." Lawton was never booked despite a robust approach to defenders. Wilf Mannion, another member of the England forward line in the immediate

post-war years, said: "He was the finest centre-forward I played with in the finest forward line. We'd make the bullets and he'd fire them home. He played in some of the greatest games and scored the goals that mattered." Tom Finney also paid tribute. "Tommy Lawton was a prolific goalscorer, just look at his record of scoring 22 goals in 23 games for England. And that's overlooking the fact that he probably lost his best years due to the war. He was very talented indeed, one of the greats." Lawton never earned more than £12 a week despite moves to Everton (£8,500, a record for a 17-year-old), Chelsea (£11,500, a record), Notts County (£20,000, a record), Brentford (£12,000) and Arsenal (£20,000), a total sum that would take a modern striker of his calibre a fortnight to earn in wages. When he joined Third Division Notts County in 1947 goals went up from 9,000 to 35,000.

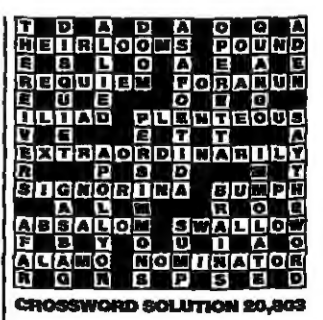
Obituary, page 10

Guardian Crossword No 20,804

Set by Rufus



- Across**
- 7 Foreign Legion's drink (7)
 - 8 Bill gives way and agrees (7)
 - 10 Lot of Arabs (6)
 - 11 You will know when you've got it (6)
 - 12 A very small amount for the time of year (4)
 - 13 It's hard to get as low as this (4,5)
 - 14 Type-cast him in a role showing compassion (11)
 - 19 Staggered, due to ill-fitting satin shoes (10)
 - 22 Formerly of some concern (4)
 - 23 He makes an offer to support Floss somehow (8)
 - 24 They are found at sports grounds and in the streets (5)
 - 25 Party leader likely to be easily influenced (7)
- Down**
- 1 Trickery of the French in a sense (7)
 - 2 Mastering it may need solid study (8)
 - 3 Model child-minder (6)
 - 4 Mix up in motor-cycle trial (8)
 - 5 Some money raised for the chessmaker (6)
 - 6 Threatened, but received support (5,2)
 - 9 Shrewd fielders in sticky leg traps (11)
 - 15 Well-known line in footwear (8)
 - 16 Ring in wrong details and get cut off (8)
 - 17 Normally Laura's out with a sweetheart (2,1,4)
 - 18 School girl embracing black-guard from the Orient (7)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,803

- 20 Harp on about an unfortunate child (6)
 - 21 Is in a hide to see a bird (6)
- Solution tomorrow**
- Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0991 332 238. Calls cost 50p per minute Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm, and 45p per minute at all other times. Service supplied by ATS.
- ANSWERS

The long-running saga of Ivy's ghost, which Vera believed to be hovering about her, was breathtaking in its banality, as was the kidnapping of Mavis and Derek's garden gnome, which included an episode in which the hapless couple received a gnome ear in the post.
Jaci Stephen on Soap Wars

92 cover story

مكتبة من الاجل